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The Daily Commercial.

MR. STANTON.

Two or Three Views of Him.

[Correspondence of the Boston Advertiser.]

WASHINGTON December 25, 1869.

It was one day in 1864, if I am right in my recollection, I went up to the War Department, about ten o'clock in the morning, and waited with others to see the Secretary in the Adjutant's office. There were a dozen or more of us, and we had to sit for half an hour before work gave him a chance to come from his inner room. When he came, he stood as usual by the desk, and hastily each man's story or request or petition. Third or fourth in coming forward was a roughly dressed elderly man, evidently embarrassed at finding himself face to face with the Power Presence of the War Office. He stated his business in a few words—one of his vessels had been used by the government, and was now out of repair at New Orleans; he wanted permission to send down there from New York certain things, cordage and canvas, in part, for refitting the ship, so that he might get it to sea. He offered no papers to show that he was or prove the truth of his story, and none were called for by the Secretary. Mr. Stanton eyed the man with doubt and susp icion; cordage and canvas were contraband of war, and he thought the tale a mere cover for trade with the enemy. He stood silent for a moment, and then broke out in wrath. His first words were, "I've a good "mind to send you to the Old Capitol!" The man dropped back a foot or two, and then, evidently supposing his request had not been understood, began to speak again—hesitating and stammering, and making his case worse and worse with every syllable. The Secretary's voice was not loud, but you could not help feeling that it was intense with passion. "Not another word, sir! Not another word, or you come here "with such a story! Permit to send cordage to "New Orleans ?—no sir, no sir, you'll get no "such permit. Are you trading with the rebels "forgetting ready to trade ? Permit—I'll give "you a permit to the Old Capitol first! We've "had too much of this shipping contraband "goods! I'll not give you a permit, sir,—I'll "watch you, and if I find you are trading I'll "you up, sir—shut you up, sir! Do you hear? "Now go about your business, sir, and be careful that we don't hear of you, or I'll not "give you a permit—that's my answer."

This view illustrates some side of Mr. Stanton's character. He was at times arbitrary and unreasonable, but it was in the public service—he did not always have time or heart for considering private rights. The old man left the office in confus'on and with tears falling down his cheeks. The officers stood in speechless fear and great amazement, for we knew very well who might be in that threat about the Old Capitol. Some of us were personally without any known any business—doubtless we all br-athed freer outside the building. It was no time for asking questions, and we all quietly stood that well enough.

Two or three days later I was at the Department again—this time after business hours, about four o'clock in the evening. The Secretary saw me in the Adjutant's room, and called me to the private office. "You were here the "other day when a man was refused permission to "send some supplies down to New Orleans?" I answered that I was. "And you remember "what took place then?" I ventured to say that I thought none of us who were present would forget the matter soon. "Well, well—never "mind that; I was very unjust to that man. "and I want to find him again. I felt sorry "after he went away—I looked into his case, "and he's served the country; he wanted his "vessel, and he let us have it for almost nothing; it's our business to put it in good order. "He don't want a favor from us; I ought to "apologize to him. I've got his name—do you "know if he's in the city, where he may be "found?" Happily I did know—he was at the hotel, might cast down and dejected. "Will "you go to his room, present my respects, and ask "him to call—up to my house at six o'clock:—for I may stay, I'll send a man with you." And he called a clerk or messenger:—"This man will "show him where I live; please tell him that I "want to make him an apology—tell him what "you've said to you. It was wrong and unjust in "me to speak to him as I did." We found the old gentleman at dinner. He started and turned pale when I said that he was wanted by Mr. Stanton, but I soon made him understand how he would be received. He returned from the Secretary's house—he was in an ecstasy of delight—He's a good man, and can have whatever I've got—he will be the first one who "for the old flag under which I've sailed so long."

The great Secretary loved justice. He was one of the rest of men, so far as my observation goes, to offer reparation for a wrong. Thinking nothing of himself but everything of the cause, there was no meanness in asking pardon for an unkind speech or a bitter word. Personally he was generous and tender as a woman, but he hated disloyalty and half-heartedness, and was at no pains to spare his passion when he met either. He found many a man to him with. Less a rong as life, just by the way he showed for injustice—for the clouds of the storm y in his anger, he was considerate and kind in his estimate of men.

One evening we received a long report from our correspondent before the battle of Fredericksburg. It was a story of a battle and a defeat. We wanted permission to send some-thing of it to the press, and got it by the telegraph. To get that we went to Mr. Stanton's house. He was at dinner when my friend's card was presented. The servant came out to say that his master would finish his dinner unless our business was urgent. My friend replied that we had a letter from the front with important news, but would wait his pleasure or convenience. He came at once—asked about the battle—saw it got there, and by whom it was written. "Now I'll sit "down and read it myself, for you come here "with such a story! Permit to send cordage to "New Orleans ?—no sir, no sir, you'll get no "such permit. Are you trading with the rebels "forgetting ready to trade ? Permit—I'll give "you a permit to the Old Capitol first! We've "had too much of this shipping contraband "goods! I'll not give you a permit, sir,—I'll "watch you, and if I find you are trading I'll "you up, sir—shut you up, sir! Do you hear? "Now go about your business, sir, and be careful that we don't hear of you, or I'll not "give you a permit—that's my answer."

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They knew not this man who call him harsh and cruel. The outward manner was stern and rigid in his duties; the man was simple and loving and true-hearted. History will tell of the officer's great labors and responsibilities, some of us must forever keep in mind the friend and citizen as he was in private to his associations, warm and upright and helpful and of gracious spirit.

A Captive Among Indians.

[From the Cheyenne Leader, Dec., 21st.]

On Sunday night we had the pleasure of meeting and conversing at length with Mrs. Kelly, the lady who was captured by the Sioux Indians in 1864, at the time of the attack upon and destruction of a train of wagons crossing the plains in the summer of that year. That attack was made on the old emigrant road at a point some little distance west of Fort Laramie, and the circumstances of the affair are doubtless well remembered by many of our readers. Mrs. Kelly was in July of the year before mentioned that train of wagon, laden with goods and supplies, and accompanied by nine men, two women, and two children, left Fort Laramie, pursuing their westward march. The commander-in-chief of that expedition did not usually need be apprehended from Indians, and, while they would, doubtless, encounter them, that if they treated them kindly fear of war need be entertained. At this time no depredations had as yet been committed by the Indians, and the travelers felt secure in proceeding on their journey. At a distance from the fort, where they had encamped for the night, they were approached by a party of some three hundred Indians, who came in full war dress, and appearing friendly, demanded food, etc, and finally assented to the request that they might get their supplies for them. This request they were, perforce, obliged to comply with, and while engaged in the task the murderous red-skins made the onslaught. Seven men were shot dead and the women were taken captives. Mr. William Larimer, well known in this Territory, was severely wounded and was supposed among the Indians for the stock, was fortunate enough to make his escape unobserved, and made his way to the fort. Mr. Kelly, the husband of the lady to whom we are indebted for the facts embodied in this article, was a short distance from the camp when the attack was made, and thus effected his escape. Thus the entire party, with the exception of Mr. Kelly and Mr. Larimer, were either killed or captured as prisoners. Mrs. Larimer was taken in the confusion of the retreat of the savages, Mrs. Larimer effected her escape, and was fortunate enough to reach the fort. Mrs. Kelly, with her little girl, an adopted child, slipped away from them on the second night, but was recaptured and the little girl killed. Subsequent to this act, Kelly was entirely without the companionship of a single white person for the period of three months. The sufferings and hardships endured by her during the term of Sally's campaign against these Indians, were grievous indeed. Her experience would afford the material for a voluminous and thrilling narrative. She was, upon the occasion of one attack by Sally upon the Indians in which the latter was, allowed to write to her lords, which the Indians attached to a pole erected mid-way between the contending forces. These letters were received by the soldiers, and by her agency a plot to decoy a portion of the command into a certain ambush frustrated. She was finally released through the agency of friendly Indians, and rejoined her husband, after five months of captivity. The death of Mrs. Kelly, two years later, left her a widow and dependent children, for the support of the proper care of the little property left after the sale of the teams and goods by Indians in 1864. She has sought to obtain indemnity from government for these losses, and has just gone to Washington to present her claims to the proper authorities in person.

MR. HENRY J. WISSER, formerly of the New York *Times*, and now occupying a consular position in Saxony, writes an interesting letter, in which he discusses the favorable impressions made on the Prussian Court by the Burlingame Embassy. He says: "The Embassy, therefore, has been received in Prussia with as much warmth as could be expected from it at all the Courts of Europe, and its objects have only to be properly presented by Mr. Burlingame to insure for it a hearty reception everywhere here. As to the Chinese question in the head of it disarms that jealousy which would be apparent among the rival nations of Europe if a treaty of any other country were its chief."

His Secret.

Have you a friend who always wears a ruddy glow upon his cheek, and carries enough fun upon his carcase to keep him from shivering these cold days? who is never troubled with indigestion, nor cold, nor headache, nor rheumatism? who laughs enough to keep him in good low, and troubles no one with stories of the ills he staggers under? If you have, watch him and you will find that he drinks from three to six glasses of Beer, Ibannals & Co.'s cream ale every day—and that's the secret honey."

Do not Neglect

a slight cough, it may end in consumption. *A. Gilfoy's* Cough Balsam will relieve you. 7 THs"

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

The Reconstruction of Virginia.

A Compromise Bill Prepared by the Reconstruction Committee—Treasurer Spinner on Railway Monopolies and Finances—Internal Revenue Receipts for Six Months—The Western Distillers and the Forty-Eight Hour Mash.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 31, 1869.

The Reconstruction of Virginia.

Private letters received here show that the views of some members of the Reconstruction Committee have undergone a change within the last fortnight. One of them has drawn up a bill relating to Virginia, which has the sanction of several of his associates, and is intended to be a compromise between those who would admit the State at once and those who want to put her back into the condition of Georgia. This bill requires all State and Legislature officers to take the oath in the Fourteenth Amendment, and the Legislature must pledge itself by solemn act never to amend the State Constitution so as to prohibit negroes from voting, holding office, sitting on juries and sharing the school money. These fundamental conditions being acceded to, the State shall be admitted.

Beware of Railroad Monopolies.

Treasurer Spinner is out in a letter defending the National Banks from some hostile criticisms. He scouts the idea that they are to be feared as monopolists, and says that they are at all times in the control of the Secretary of the Treasury under the laws already enacted. He says the monopoly that the country has to fear is that of railroad corporations, on which he is somewhat severe. In the course of his letter he declares against expansion in any form, and says we must get back to hard money by careful processes, and warns his correspondent to beware of the influence of railroad companies.

Internal Revenue Receipts.

The internal revenue receipts from the first of July till the close of business to-day, being half of the fiscal year, were $86,214,000, while those from customs were $45,175,000. These figures are considerably in excess of the estimates made a year ago by the Secretary of the Treasury. The expenditures for this half year are not yet known, but it can be stated that the balance sheet when made up toward the end of January will show well on the right side.

The Forty-eight Hours Mash.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue today gave a hearing to the attorney of the western whisky distillers, who object to the Bureau's designation of forty-eight hours as the limit of grinding mash, and claim that as this is not long enough for proper fomentation of mash. The Commissioner was not convinced by his argument, but agreed to let Deputies Douglass and Green go out to the interior and the last of next week and see how the rule works.

The Pacific Railway Controversy.

The Pacific Railroad troubles have finally been settled to the satisfaction of the President, Secretary of the Treasury and everybody concerned. The junction of the two roads is fixed at Ogden. The contract takes the line from that point up to Promontory, and to-day received the necessary order for the bonds remaining due on account of being preserved on the purchase money. If no new complication arises, we shall hear no more of this controversy in Congress.

Whisky in Bond.

Commissioner Delano is rather favorably inclined towards the request of the western distillers for a change of the revenue laws, so as to allow whisky to be stored in bonded whisky in bond, but will not make any official recommendation. Parties interested in this change are working with such members of Congress as are in the city, and hope to succeed in getting a favorable report from the Ways and Means Committee.

WASHINGTON, December 31.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The receipts of internal revenue to-day were $238,882; for the month, $4,492,259, and for the fiscal year to date $86,987,902.

PROTEST.

Col. P. P. Pickliy, late of the Choctaw tribe of Indians, has entered protest before the Commissioners of Indian Affairs on behalf of his tribe, against a violation of the treaty made with the Choctaws, whereby the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company has been allowed to run its line through the Choctaw country. This was induced by the seizure of the Choctaw lands a few days ago.

THE PRESIDENT CHOSEN UMPIRE.

The Governments of Portugal and Great Britain have actually claim possession of the island of Bolaurd, on the western coast of Africa, and to certain portions of territory opposite that island on the main land. The positions are valuable only in connection with facilities for carrying on the slave trade. Unable to settle the question by arbitration, the British and Portuguese Governments have chosen the President of the United States as umpire. The time for filing their respective documents in the Department of State expired to-day.

AN ITEM OF THE MESSAGE.

As comment has heretofore been made on a misprint in President Grant's annual message, which represented him as saying the "United States is the first of all nations," it is proper to state that in the manuscript as furnished to the press by the President himself, no such sentence reading, "the United States is the freest of all nations, so too its people sympathize with all people struggling for liberty and self-government."

THE RED RIVER REBELLION

The Authorities Regard the Insurrection as a Very Small Affair.

CHICAGO, December 31.—The following is the Canadian view of the rebellion on Red River, as given by the special correspondent of the Toronto *Globe*, at St. Cloud, on his way to Winnepeg.

ST. CLOUD, MINN., December 13.—Governor McDougall, with Colonels Dennis and Begg, arrived here this afternoon from Fort Abercrombie. The party seemed somewhat despondent at the state of matters at Red River, but so much from the formidableness of the insurrection as from private reasons. In fact they seem to regard the thing itself as a small matter, but in very small section of the inhabitants are concerned in it. The difficulty has been with the authorities of the Hudson Bay Company, and Governor McTavish, have been altogether silent in the matter, and the half-breeds done not know that employees were the instigators of the whole affair. The Ottawa Government, it is gathered, is in sympathy with the half-breeds, and in weakening the authority of the Governor to give them concessions.

The religious authorities have been excessively busy, but it is expected that the General of Qubec has authority from Rome to clear the way for the Annexationists' views, and would probably resist annexation were it pushed. An American and one or two adventurous petitioggers on the disputed territory are evidently pulling strong and pushing annexation. The ideas regarding the Indians reported in the Rebellion. One thing, however is certain: if anything like anarchy is attempted, the half-breeds will rise in arms. The consequences of such a rising would be dreadful, in fact the people here, though distant, are in terror at the idea. As regards Col. Dennis, instead of instigating the Indians to fight, he took the strongest, and happily most successful endeavors, to keep them at their homes, and was shot being fired. He had a party of fifty in the stone fort, and when the bill of rights was published, he boldly marched into Pembina, attending further negotiations which the French expressed a willingness to effect. He moreover stopped a large party of Sioux on their way to fight the Americans, and went to Pembina to report to the Governor. The whole matter is evidently in a fearful muddle. A want of tact and judgment on the part of the Canadian Government on the one hand, and shrewd calculations on the part of two or three smart speculators on the other, have made the muddle.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 31, 1869.

PORT AU PRINCE CAPTURED.

It is reported the city of Port au Prince was captured by the Caco rebellion revolutionists on the night of the 18th inst.

THE ANNUAL CHARITY BALL

Is announced for February 3d, at the Academy of Music.

FERE HYACINTHE'S LECTURE

Netted $2,700 to the French Benevolent Society.

Information was received to-day that Caldwell, charged with complicity in the drawback frauds, will not arrive here till next week, as the time for the extradition law, seven days must elapse before he can be discharged.

ELECTION FRAUD CASES.

The accused canvassers and inspectors of election in Brooklyn were arraigned and trial re-doked for Thursday next.

HOLIDAY.

To-morrow will be a general holiday, and business suspended.

RUMORS.

United States Marshal Harlon pronounces untrue the reported sailing of the schooner Maria, with arms for the Cuban insurgents. The little steamer Anna has been allowed to get to sea, ostensibly for Nassau, with fifteen passengers, but carried no war material. A rumor, published in the Brooklyn Eagle says Cubans hoisted her outside Sandy Hook.

ARRIVAL.

The steamer Maine, from Bremen, *via* Southampton, arrived to-day.

THE STANTON TESTIMONIAL.

The committee appointed by the Union League to obtain subscriptions for Mrs. Stanton expects to raise one hundred thousand dollars. A. T. Stewart will head the list with a handsome sum.

RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR.

Midnight.—Trinity chimes are announcing the New Year to an enthusiastic crowd assembled in the vicinity.

Get the Snow Flake Flour.

No excuse for high prices or for poor bread with this flour. Jenkins & Bro.'s name in large letters, are on all barrels; also, directions for using and Checkered Front on the bags. †

MANSFIELD, OHIO.

First Reunion of the Sherman Brigade —An Interesting Occasion.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, OHIO, December 31, 1869.

The first reunion of the Sherman Brigade took place here to-day. The brigade was organized in 1861 by Hon. John Sherman, and consisted of the Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Regiments O. V. I., the Sixth Battery and McLaughlin's squadron of cavalry. About two hundred persons were present. Major General T. J. Wood and Colonel Ferguson were unavoidably detained. The Convention met in Miller's Hall, at three o'clock P. M. The hall was handsomely decorated with evergreens, flags, paintings, mottoes, &c., and the tattered colors of the regiments were displayed, together with captured flags, muskets, &c. The empty chairs of Gen. Harker and Col. McIlvaine were placed on front of the stage, dressed in evergreen and crape.

The assemblage was called to order by Col. Isaac Gass, who announced that Hon. John Sherman was present, and would act as President. The Senator appeared and gave a brief history of the brigade while he had connection with it; he welcomed his old comrades, and wished them a pleasant and happy reunion. The old chaplain, Rev. A. R. Brown, then invoked the Divine blessing. The temporary organization was then completed by the appointment of Secretaries and Vice Presidents. Committees on permanent organization and enrolment were also appointed. During the absence of committees, Judge Jacob Brinkerhoff, Lieut. Chauncy Woodruff, Major J. J. Williams, Gen. R. Brinkerhoff, Major W. F. Hinman, and others made speeches, and Sergeant Thompson sung an original song, which was rapturously applauded. Letters were announced from Generals Sherman, Wood, Forsythe and Garfield, and Colonel John Ferguson. Without waiting for the different committees to report, the Convention adjourned to meet at the banquet hall at seven o'clock. At seven o'clock the members of the brigade present formed in procession at the Wiler House, and headed by a band of music marched to Young's Hall, where a sumptuous banquet had been spread. After partaking of the good things there provided, Captain L. D. Myers formed, and were marched to and inspected in Illinois; 6,271 in Missouri; 4,356 in Wisconsin; 5,736 in Ohio, and the remainder in Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Tennessee, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska and Louisiana.

Martin McGuire, awaiting trial for the murder of his wife, hung himself in jail at Hartford, Conn., Thursday night.

The Auditor's report shows that the total debt of the State, December 1st, as compared with the same period last year, is reduced $6,000,000 during the year, but the increase of means on hand for the payment of the debt will make the actual decrease $3,000,000. The project of extending Washington street, and other expensive jobs, have been referred to the next city government.

The extensive oil cloth factory of Richards & Throthers, in Newtown township, N. J., was destroyed by fire yesterday.

At Westfield, Illinois, a young man named Grey, in sport, shot a young Swede, inflicting a mortal wound.

Yesterday morning a German named John Darsh, residing at No. 81 Main street, Chicago, committed suicide by shooting himself. Want of work and a family to support drove him to it.

A commission of Federal officers convened in Nashville yesterday morning to investigate frauds alleged to have been practiced by claimants in collecting bounty and back pay of deceased soldiers. It is said that hundreds of thousands of dollars have been diverted from the proper channels of this source.

Mr. Lyons, formerly detective in the United States Quartermaster's department, was before Commissioner Stanbery in England on a charge of embezzlement. What further action will be taken in the matter is not known.

At Clinton, Iowa, yesterday, a negro named Henry Williams assaulted and beat in a fearful manner a little girl named Ida Rockwood. Henry Shew, a grocer, for alleged criminal intimacy with his wife.

The total losses by fire in Louisville, during the year just closed, were $89,000, and the amount of insurance $240,000. The expenses of the fire department were $80,000.

Geo. Anstedt and George Hoffman were arraigned in Louisville yesterday, for murdering a negro named Jacob Wood, in the woods last since. The former was bailed and the latter acquitted.

It is ascertained that E. Kendall, late Treasurer of Boone county, Ill., is a defaulter to the county for about twenty-four thousand dollars. His defi ets commenced in 1865, and continued to increase in amount each year. His bondsmen are Hon. Isaac Arnold and others.

Two women, named Mrs. Lyons and Mrs. Joseph Carpenter, where I lived several years. He was a fox-terrier, very vivacious and vigilant, and quick to understand any direction that was given to him. He was a little one, and not to let the cats lap the milk, he went to the barn-yard regularly at milking time, and mounted guard so valiantly that it was as much as any cat dared to do to venture on emerging from the forest. Here in a little while he was joined by five others, and his forces became quite formidable, and the three successive stealthy advances of several yards (halting for some minutes between each, with ears low forward to catch the slightest sound), and in this way he moved slowly up to the water's edge. Still he did not venture to quench his thirst, for though his fore-feet were partially in the tank and he could lap the water and clear in the water, he remained for some minutes listening in perfect stillness. Not a motion could be detected in himself or his shadow. He returned cautiously and slowly to the position he had taken up on first

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY JANUARY 1, 1870.

It appears to be pretty well understood that the nomination of Mr. HOAR for Assistant Justice will be withdrawn from the Senate, and that he will before long retire from the Cabinet, to be succeeded in the position of Attorney General by Judge STROBEL, of Philadelphia.

WHEN MR. QUAY commenced his suit against the COMMERCIAL and placed himself on trial, MR. MACKEY made his cause his own, and engaged special counsel, to the end that no development should be made damaging to him. In this he betrayed his consciousness of his own vulnerability. It was manifestly a step of conscious weakness. No one need be at fault in drawing the only inference of which it is susceptible. To members of the Legislature the question recurs, is MR. MACKEY the man to indorse?

IT was a month ago that MR. QUAY declared that the "MACKEY SLATE" had been made up and was "going to be put through." Since then MR. QUAY himself has been "put through" a trifle. Nevertheless he is in Harrisburg, as MR. MACKEY'S right bower, doing his best to make good his boast. If the Republicans in the Legislature desire to indorse MR. QUAY they have an opportunity. But the people will in good time interpose their "objection," and the offenders may rest assured that the objection will not be overruled.

A NATIONAL CONGRESS for the consideration of crime, punishment and reform, has been called to meet in Cincinnati, in the autumn of 1870, by the leading prison reformers in the Union. The New York Prison Association has taken the initiative in convening the Congress, and has issued the following call to be signed and returned to the Association:

"The undersigned, deeming prison discipline a vital interest of society, and one of the gravest of social problems, and on both these grounds worthy of the closest and the freest discussion, cordially unite in calling a Natl nal Congress for conference on criminal punishment and reformatory treatment, to be held in the autumn of 1870, in the city of Cincinnati."

Amoug the gentlemen designated as a Committee of Arrangements we notice the name of F. H. NEVIN, Esq., of this city, and one of the Inspectors of the Western Penitentiary.

ALL that is needed to make a finish of the Treasury Ring now is steadiness and fidelity on the part of the Republican Representatives. Certain of these, elected under distinct pledges to oppose the Ring, it is understood, are mousing around for an excuse for meditated treachery. Of such, however, the number is small. The wavering is on the other side. The Ringmen begin to quake. Nothing is needed to complete the business of burying them out of sight but faithfulness on the part of the Republicans in the Legislature. Nothing but the basest treachery to public sentiment can prevent such a result. Public opinion is intense and unanimous, *and the Representative who disregards it can never hope to* retain a standing among honorable men.

THE "MACKEY SLATE," which MR. QUAY weeks ago gave notice was "going to be put through," has been set up in opposition to Legislative Retrenchment, Economy and Reform. The representative supporting it will prove himself utterly faithless to the people who have spoken in a manner that no one can pretend to misunderstand. The "MACKEY SLATE," means opposition to reforming the Treasury Department, and the continuance of the disgraceful system of Legislative brokerage which has cast odium on life at Harrisburg. It means the reintroduction of the infamous tax bill of last winter, framed solely to take a million from the pockets of the people and put into the pockets of the Treasury Ring for private speculation. It means an almost indefinite continuance of the same order of things at the Capitol which has created a feeling of shame and indignation throughout the State, and which has caused to be awakened a demand for change that is universal. This and more of the sort is what is meant by the "MACKEY SLATE." The people are opposed to it. Who is for it? A few days will determine.

A POET has said,—
"War is a game, which, were their subjects wise,
Kings would not play at."
We may add that subjects would, doubtless, sometimes abstain from going to war on their own account, if they took time to reflect upon the subject of their own probable sufferings as its consequences. During the last few months the foreign telegrams have contained frequent mention of an insurrection in Dalmatia. So little is known in this country about the scene of the conflict, or the causes of the revolt, that few, we suppose, have felt much concern respecting either the progress, or the result of the insurrection. We are not going to try to enlighten them. But a late Berlin newspaper contains a statement well adapted to enlist sympathy. It seems that, in some parts of the country, the Austrian troops, in the absence of all other food, were compelled to cut up and boil the fruit trees and olive trees of the people. As almost the entire subsistence of the inhabitants is derived from the products of such trees, one can imagine the sufferings and the consequent resentment against the Austrians that must result.

WHOM WILL YE SERVE?

If the Republican members of the Legislature, now assembling in Harrisburg, would earn the lasting gratitude of their constituents and place the party in an impregnable position, let them smash the slate which the Treasury Ring a month ago were impudent enough to boast was "going to be put through." Compared with the gains, promised or in hand, resulting from lending aid to the Ring, the approbation which every member who contributes to such a result will receive from the people and his own conscience, will be incomparably precious. Not a Senator or Member who has gone or will go to Harrisburg, but knows perfectly well that the people, as one man, have their eyes fixed on their representatives, to discover which it is they will serve, the Ring or the People. Not one who errs can hope to escape. The time has come when representatives must take sides either with the People or the Ring. The choice will be made with complete knowledge of consequences. Ignorance cannot be given in extenuation of a mistake. The subject has been fully discussed and is understood perfectly. Let representatives, therefore, who their duty fearlessly, and thus themselves such a future as honorable men ever wish to enjoy at home and wherever their names are pronounced, stand together firmly against the Ring of bad leaders, speculators and corruptionists, whose names are justly odious in every corner of the State. Representatives can do nothing so fatal to themselves as to be found acting with the debauched Ring. Let them do anything but that, and their reward at the hands of an intelligent constituency will be certain. Failure, in this respect, will dig their graves as public men, and incur a lasting stigma as private citizens. Whom will ye serve? is the question which the Republicans of Pennsylvania are asking the Senators and members assembling in Harrisburg.

MRS. STOWE'S REJOINDER.

MRS. STOWE is at length heard from in defense of her dreadful statement of the BYRON affair. Though, as she informs us, she has not read the attacks upon her which her statement has provoked, she is fully aware of the storm of criticism and vituperation that has raged about her head. As NOAH sent forth the raven to ascertain whether the waters had been assuaged, so apparently Mrs. STOWE gives the first chapter of her rejoinder to the press, that she may learn by the reception it meets with, whether the tempest of indignation and wrath has subsided. Should the seeming lull prove a real and not a delusive calm, we suppose the rest of the work may be expected soon to appear.

The lady is doubtless entitled to a fair hearing, and the facts and arguments of her book ought to be pondered with care and candor. Though we cannot wish that she may succeed in making good her charges against the celebrated poet and his sister, one may reasonably rejoice if she succeeds in removing the odious impressions regarding herself, which were produced in many minds by her first statement. After repeated perusal of this introductory chapter of her defense, published in yesterday's COMMERCIAL, we confess that our expectation of additional light in regard to the original charge, or of successful vindication of its promulgator is very feeble. The only sentence of any force in the chapter is the answer to the question—"Why she made this disclosure at all"—to which she replies, "Because I considered it my duty to make it." Nothing that she says besides adds any cogency to this declaration. Mrs. STOWE simply repeats the considerations which first prompted her to publish the charge. These are the notice taken of the GUICCIOLI book, the necessity of vindicating Lady BYRON'S memory, &c.—circumstances which do not appear, to anybody but herself, to justify her course. The emphasis she attaches to her relations of friendship with Lady BYRON, and her consequent obligation to vindicate her memory, cannot but seem exaggerated, if not ridiculous, when we remember the slight intercourse that existed between the ladies and the fact that Lady BYRON has left numerous and influential kindred amply able to take care of her good name. Another very disagreeable feature of this first chapter as of the former statement, is the utter absence of consideration for the reputation of some other persons dead and living, whose good name is of as much value as Lady BYRON'S.

Mrs. STOWE'S reference to the charge of literary failure laid against her first narrative it is impossible to read with gravity.

"O my brothers and sisters! is there then nothing in the world to think of but literary efforts? I ask any man with a heart in his bosom, &c., I ask any woman who had been, &c., whether she would have the right of making the work of bitterness a literary success?"

The truth is, that nobody would ever have alluded to the literary character of the article, if it had not been deformed by by many specimens of fine writing evidently intended to make "the work of bitterness a literary success."

Upon the whole, this first chapter does not afford any promise that the chapters to follow will change the estimate already formed by the public of Lord and Lady BYRON and of Mrs. STOWE. There is an evident attempt to make things seem what she wishes them to seem by the application of violent epithets. For example, in the article in *Blackwood* to which she refers "her (my) friend" was not "branded as the vilest of criminals," and so in other instances. A more illogical production than this chapter it would be difficult to find. Even its style, reminding us of the forcible feeble school, discloses in the author the perturbation of conscious weakness.

1869.

To look before and after belongs to man alone among the inhabitants of the earth, and his exercise of the peculiar power is limited only by his intelligence and his courage. Hence a portion of the interest which, in thoughtful minds, attaches to the recognized landmarks of time, whether natural as constituted by the revolution of the heavenly bodies, or civil as instituted by the human will, is found in the indefinite mark on the first of January; in itself it is like any other day; but as the beginning of a new year, it is invested, in the thought of men, with much of the interest of the year just gone and with something of the interest of the year which is to come. Memory and hope combine to give it significance, and to assign it a place in the background of recollection amidst the labors and conflicts that await us through the year upon which we enter to-day.

Looking beyond ourselves and our immediate personal concerns, and reviewing the time since January the first, 1869, the prevailing impression produced by the retrospect must, we suppose, suggest cheering anticipations of increased human welfare in the future. In China, now brought so near us, some slight tendency to reaction has been manifest against the innovations contemplated by the appointment of Mr. BURLINGAME as ambassador to the West. But those who best understand the subject, are of opinion that the changes which benevolent foreigners deem most desirable in that country, are looked upon by the Chinese Government as inevitable and likely to be advantageous, if carried out with the patient wisdom demanded by the character and history of the people. We are called upon to confide in the sagacity and honest intentions of those who have the matter in hand.

In Japan the remarkable condition of things begun some years ago, has shown new developments during the year just closed. A recent traveler in that empire states that the desire to learn English as the key to the knowledge of the West, is a perfect *furore* among the people, and that thousands are engaged in its acquisition with no other helps than a grammar and a dictionary. One such fact may well stand instead of many details. All can see that both these empires, now brought into such near connection with this country, are destined to influence our fortunes in several ways. To watch the unfolding of our mutual relations as well as to look for the results of the great experiment in China, are sources of interest in store for the coming years.

In Europe, several events have taken place, which, in view of their possible consequences, seem likely to rank in history among the most momentous occurrences of the century. If Frenchmen and some others are not mistaken in estimating the effects in changing the direction of the commerce of the world, since the discovery of this character. And we can hardly be wrong in so ranking the assembly of the Council in Rome. Whatever dogmas it may decree, whatever policy adopt, the consequences of its sessions to christendom and the world, will certainly become a permanent element in the annals of mankind. After its adjournment, the Catholic Church, whether better or worse, will not and can never again be precisely what it was before.

A review of the history of our own country during the past year may reasonably inspire pleasing anticipations of the future. The gloomy forebodings with which many looked forward a twelvemonth ago, have not been realized. The wicked and ignorant financial policy of semi-repudiation which, if adopted, would have covered the national character with infamy and forever degraded as a people, has as the result of the election of Gen. GRANT been condemned. The most conclusive proof has thus been afforded that an educated nation can deliberately prefer honor to ease. The far reaching significance of the selection has been more keenly appreciated abroad than at home, and in the minds of many European thinkers has removed the last and strongest objection to republican government. The year 1869 will always be memorable not only in our own annals, but in the history of the world, for the completion of the Pacific Railroad. Its effects upon our material advancement and upon the development of our national character will, perhaps, not be more momentous than the international relations of the stupendous achievement. With each month throughout the past year, the confidence of the people in the administration now in power, has steadily increased. From their knowledge of General GRANT'S character their expectations were high, and these have not been disappointed. Observing his actions in his new sphere, they have been enabled to discern that, in Gen. GRANT they have a President who stands, in an important sense, above the influences of party, and to whom the claims of humanity are as imperative and worthy of recognition as the interests of state. It indeed is a limited and one-sided wisdom that fails to see that they are identical, or both parts of one whole. Our President's initiation and prosecution of the new Indian policy will, probably, furnish one of the brightest pages in American history.

In our own noble State, something has been done to arrest the tide of political corruption which has long been so foul a blot upon its reputation, and so deadly an influence upon its prosperity. Yet much remains to conquer still. And on this first day of the new year, we are able to inform our readers that, in various parts of the State, there are unmistakable indications of the awakening of the popular mind to the importance of the subject. Perhaps, however, the most encouraging and least delusive sign of approaching reformation, or at least of the coming of the time when political baseness will be attended by its appropriate infamy, is the manifest alarm which prevails among "the hireling wolves whose gospel is their maw." Should the year upon which we enter to-day witness in its course the effectual and permanent divorce of Pennsylvanian statesmanship from the morals of "old Jewry," it will surely deserve to be marked as a wonderful and blessed year in our annals.

The Boston *Advertiser* has discovered that the word *Slate* spelled backward is *Etats*, but remarks that it is not safe as a regular thing to undertake to learn French simply by going back on your English.

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DECADENCE.

The Depopulation of the Country Districts of New England.

The decrease of population among the country towns of New England is startling. Railroads and factories have changed the ancient order of things. The Palmer (Mass.) *Journal* says the population of the hills has slid into the valleys, and with it the wealth also. Farms can now be bought for less than what the buildings are worth, while several farms are often merged into one, and briars and brambles spring up where once was the garden and the rose. Rev. Dr. Gale, of Berkshire county, Mass., in a recent sermon, drew a gloomy picture of the decrease of population in that county. There are thirty-three Congregational churches in the county, and only fourteen settled pastors. In 1829 there were twenty-six churches and twenty-three pastors, and the membership in forty years has increased only thirty-four. The Palmer *Journal*, above quoted, says:

In the last four years we have traveled thousands of miles among the hill and mountain towns, leaving their back roads and by ways, wherever the remnant of a once prosperous population dwelt, and we are surprised at the indication of decay witnessed at almost every mile. For long distances there are no human habitations. You pass the wreck of once elegant mansions, or the foundation where they stood. Others are crumbling back to dust the outside covering hardly keeping the decadent form erected the inmates within. There are scraggy remains of large and once fruitful orchards, now mere growth and choked with underbrush. Occasionally, at the crossing of a lonely road, a dilapidated Blacksmith shop, since deceased by children and teacher, and oftentimes we have traveled a half a day without seeing a living human being, except as we entered a dwelling. A lonely tenement, but sadly neglected burial place here and there, is evidence that there once was the tramp of the hills and a sustainable numerous population.

The reasons assigned by the *Journal* are that "it has become the fashion to have fewer children, and the farmer who once raised a dozen boys who helped carry on the farm prosperously, is succeeded by another who hires help, outdoor and in, and finds at the end of the year that he has scarcely saved enough to pay his employees. If he has one or two sons or daughters, they cannot be content with humble fare at home, but must ape the fashions of the city or village, and force the 'old folks at home' into more style in living than they can afford."

The Providence (R. I.) *Press* asserts that its own State is an exception to a certain extent to the depopulation now going on in the country towns of New England, for its manufacturing interests have saved most of the towns. But still the *Press* admits that the picture drawn by the Palmer *Journal* is not exaggerated, and that many districts would, on the facts throughout the country districts of New England. We make this interesting extract from its article:

This decadence commenced some years since, but was almost imappreciable till railroads were opened, when the movement began on quite a large scale. Yankee Forecasting saw at the depots the centers of trade for the most thriving villages, and the people, therefore, followed by many who had no clear or definite ideas beyond being in a lively place. Many of the latter were laborers, and found employment in the cities and others had better have remained at the hill homes. Again, the soil in many places, though not naturally sterile, was not adapted to satisfy the wants of a young man, therefore those who were ambitious, and felt pinched by the narrow bounds of their home-sphere. In other fields they found that many others had been before-minded to, and that the soil, though responding to skilful tillage, making agriculture pay better, with a little more than ordinary means of the young men. They have been ignored in too many cases.

Prof. Barker on the Spectroscope.

Late Brooklyn papers give enthusiastic accounts of the lectures delivered there by Prof. George F. Barker, of Yale College, on the Spectroscope. We should judge from their reports and from what we have known of Prof. Barker during his connection with the Western University, that it is questionable whether anything of the kind on this continent has more admirably combined the profound with the brilliant, in the presentation of recondite science to popular audiences. Every one who reads the papers knows something about the startling revelations the spectroscope has been making within a few years, and there is nobody, except a few specialists, who does not feel deeply interested in seeing what he has heretofore had only dreamed of before him, and in knowing more definitely what he but vaguely apprehends. It would be a good thing if Prof. Barker could be induced to repeat his lectures to a Pittsburgh audience. Perhaps this is impracticable, as we learn that even Chicago has failed in an application for the high privilege. *Perhaps*, too, our people would take but little interest in lectures of this character. But, from casual conversations with several of our most prominent citizens, we judge that Prof. B. is by no means forgotten here, and this his specialty, if we may call it so, without disparagement to his general scientific culture, is one that commands a very general interest among us. Let something be done at once to bring the matter to a head.

THE *Nation* thinks Mr. Wells's estimate of the cost of the civil war, $9,000,000,000, as an understatement, and says that those "who remember the period before the war, when the value of the slaves, about $200,000,000, was named as sufficient to emancipate them by purchase from their owners, will read Mr. Wells's report with a deeper sense than ever of the mystery of the future and the feebleness of human foresight." Foresight is undoubtedly at this, but there would be more if the *Nation's* figures were not so wide of the mark. Four million slaves at five hundred dollars per head, made a value of two thousand, and not two hundred, millions.

IT has just been decided in a baggage case that steamship companies are liable for the loss of passengers' baggage. The passenger had taken his valise into the stateroom and it was stolen from there. The company argued that it had not placed the baggage in the place made ready for it and that he had taken charge of it himself, and so relieved them of the responsibility. The court held that a passenger could not take charge of his baggage in such a way as to relieve the company while it was on the ship. This is an important decision to our river men, as it will apply to steamboats as well as steamships.

A MOVEMENT to cut down the hotel bills has been started in New York. The present high rate of hotel charges is having the effect of reducing the number of the traveling public, and to win back their former custom, the New York hotels are agitating a reduction of thirty-three per cent on transient rates. If it succeeds there, it will soon become universal throughout the country.

ANOTHER international yacht race has been arranged by the Atlantic Cable. It will be between the American schooner Dauntless, owned by Mr. James Gordon Bennett, Jr., and the English schooner Cambria, owned by Mr. Ashbury, of Brighton, England. The starting point will be the Old Head of Kinsale, and the western terminus Sandy Hook. The Fourth of July, 1870, is named as the day for starting.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The historic estate of Chancellorsville, near Fredericksburg, Va., consisting of 1,000 acres, was sold the other day to J. H. Waltz, of Baltimore, for $8,200.

Medical literature, says the *Athenæum*, contributes a new term to the "Slang Dictionary." That peculiar swelling of the knee which used to be called the "housemaid's knee" is now known among surgeons as the "tritualistic knee."

L. S. Graves, of Louisville, shot himself in that city a short time ago. He had an insurance policy of $5,000 on his life, containing the following clause: If the insured "shall die by his own hand, by delirium tremens, or the use of opium, or in consequence of a duel, or the laws of any nation, State, or province, the policy shall be void." In a suit to recover the insurance, the jury found for the widow, on the ground that the assured was at the time in a momentary fit of moral insanity, which subjected his will and impelled the homicide beyond the power of self control or successful resistance. The Court held that the inevitable act of an insane man, who, in that respect, is morally dead, is not in the sense of the law or the reputed conditions his voluntary act.

At Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, as the gun for reveille and evening roll call is fired each day, a dog belonging to the post, and known as Artillery Jack, takes his position beside it, superintends the operation of loading and firing with the most assiduous attention, and, when the match is applied, leaps with a yelp through the smoke to catch the ball, which he firmly believes has been discharged. This he eagerly hunts for through the parade ground, and when disappointed he runs back to the gun, looks into the muzzle, hangs his head and walks away, seemingly puzzled and disgusted, but not hopeless.

As they have stopped boring the St. Louis Artesian well at a depth of three thousand eight hundred and forty-four feet, Mark Twain, in the Buffalo (New York) *Express*, asks why they don't go around and try the other end, as there must be water there somewhere.

The debt of the State of South Carolina at the closed of November, 1869, was $6,96,431. Of this amount $38,836 was issued in 1791, and is "payable at pleasure," bearing three per cent. interest. It has a further debt of $673,441, created in 1858, bearing five per cent. interest. All the rest of its debt is at six per cent.

In enumerating plants of commercial value which flourish in Florida, none can claim precedence of the olive. It has been cultivated nearly half a century on the coast islands of Georgia. At St. Simon's and Cumberland Islands there are at the present time many standard bearing trees—of the latter more than one hundred, from which considerable quantities of pickled olives and oil are obtained. The oil manufactured from these olives is fully equal to the best quality of French oil.

A Philadelphia millionaire with a lazy son recently gave the youth one week in which to select some business for himself. The week up, the son spoke thus: "Well, father, I was thinking that if you would only advance me $30,000 or $40,000, I could invest it in Government bonds and make my living by cutting off the coupons."

The Stockton (California) *Republican* relates how the little dog of a man named Taff, who was drowned in the river at that city on the 30th ult., was seen the next day to dive several times in the river at the spot where his master sank, and finally himself disappeared entirely. Last Wednesday the dog's body rose to the surface of the water and floated off, and the next day Taff's body rose at precisely the same spot.

"It is a standing rule in my church," said one clergyman to another, "for the sexton to wake up any man he may see asleep." "I think," replied the other, "that it would be much better for the sexton, whenever a man goes to sleep under your preaching, to wake you up."

FOREIGN ARRIVALS.

Who Came—Where From—Where They Went.

According to the annual report of the Commissioners of Emigration, at New York, there has been an increase of arrivals for 1869 over those of 1868—the aggregate during the past year having been 254,837. In 1868 there was a notable increase of immigrants from Germany and a decrease of the number of Irish emigrants—101,989 having been reported from the former country and only 47,571 from the latter. This year the proportion has been considerably altered, only 96,811 German immigrants having arrived, while there were 68,052 from Ireland. The increase of English immigrants has been remarkable. In 1868 there were but 29,695, while last year the number was swollen to 41,587. We can only account for this on the supposition that the distressed condition of the English operatives and others has driven thousands of them to seek new homes in America. This theory seems to be supported by the fact that mining and manufacturing Pennsylvania has received during the last year 30,746 immigrants against 16,926 in 1868—an increase of almost one hundred per cent. Among the States which have received the largest accessions of foreign immigrants, we note, first, New York, which has 82,872; Illinois, which has 37,313; Pennsylvania, as above stated; Wisconsin, which has 16,289; Ohio, which has 11,738; Massachusetts, which has 8,158; Iowa, which has 8,026; and New Jersey, which has 7,743. Why Missouri, once a favorite locality with immigrants, should have received but 1,823, we are at a loss to understand.

The Wonders of an Atom.

All things visible around us are aggregations of atoms. From particles of dust, which under the microscope could scarcely be distinguished one from the other, are all the varied forms of nature created. This grain of dust, this particle of sand, has strange properties and powers. Science has discovered some, but still more truths are hidden within this irregular molecule of matter which we now survey than even philosophy dares dream of. How strangely it obeys the impulses of heat—mysterious are the influences of light upon it—electricity wonderfully excites it—and still more curious is the manner in which it obeys the magic of chemistry. These are phenomena which we have seen; we know them and we can reproduce them at our pleasure. We have advanced a little way into the secrets of nature, and from the spot we have gained we look forward with vision somewhat brighter than before, but we discover so much to be yet unknown, that we learn another truth—our vast ignorance. In many things relating to this grain of dust. It gathers around it other particles; they cling together and each acting upon every other one, and all of them arranging themselves around the little center according to some law, a beautiful crystal results, the geometric perfection of its form being a source of admiration. It exerts some other powers, and atom adhering to atom, obeying the influences of many external forces, undergoes inexplicable changes, and from sand and dust we find it forming the diamond aggregates into the lordly tree, bringing to perfection, in the bosom of the earth, and drifted to the villages and cities, agents so refining to and purifying as Chlorine and Sulphur, the average of other occupations. Though deeply it and machinery be introduced, they could not overcome the difficulties incident to the primary requisites, paper and type. Nor can farming come up to the level of other pursuits, and the tendency of improvements, apart from this cause would cease to be operative.

Again, there has been a sensible accuracy in many places, cliques or rings, against which it was useless for a young man, without influence, to open their new vocation, and felt pinched by the regime. Have gone elsewhere. In other fields they have satisfied their ambition, and had a recognition they could not attain at home. Hence many who we point to as the chief cause, exaggerate and mistake. They have been beneficial, but their influence has been limited. Therefore—aimed to, but not accomplished. Another thing during industry, making agriculture pay better, with a little more than ordinary means of the young men. They have been ignored in too many cases.

THE RELIGIOUS WEEKLIES.

OUR CHURCHES.

Denominational and Personal.

PRESBYTERIAN.

AN EVENTFUL YEAR.

The *Banner* reviews the most striking events of the year just closed—running over the military, scientific, social and political results of the past twelvemonth. The *great* event to Presbyterians is thus stated:

But to Presbyterians, and indeed to American Protestants generally, the great event of the year, and that which will render its memory forever blessed, is the reunion of the long disserved branches of our Church. What, in comparison with this triumph of the Prince of Peace, are all the achievements of commercial enterprise, of political wisdom, or of scientific skill? In the happiness of its consummation and in the glorious promise of its future, in the fulfillment thus vouchsafed to many fervent prayers and in the foundation thus laid for hope and effort, the Church will gratefully acknowledge the favor of its Head who, within these closing months, has thus "crowned the year with his goodness."

AN IMPORTANT PROPOSITION.

The *Independent*, of last week, has an article by the Rev. F. A. Noble, pastor of the Third Presbyterian church of this city, on "Reunion and the American Board," which is worthy of thoughtful consideration on the part of all concerned. Mr. Noble takes the ground that in order to secure the highest and most extensive efficiency in the missionary work the best thing that can be done is for the Congregational churches to take the American Board as it now is, with all its alliances, churches, missionaries, teachers, schools, and support it as their own work; and that the Presbyterian churches which have formerly co-operated with the American Board, to unite heartily and zealously in sustaining and extending the work of our Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. He thinks that such an arrangement can be made, in a way that will be satisfactory to all parties. It is also urged that in this way the Congregational churches would be stimulated to raise one hundred thousand dollars more, in order to make good the amount formerly contributed by Presbyterian churches, while these churches in their new relations, would enter upon the missionary work with new energy and liberality. Thus a large addition would be made in the way of money, while new life may be imparted to the great missionary enterprise.

WHY WOMEN ARE NOT APPRECIATED AS WORKERS.

The *Banner* says: One of the great difficulties in the way of aiding women to secure remunerative employment, is found in the want of proper qualifications. Unfortunately the method of educating and training the female sex, is such that whilst they know something of many things, it is only one here and there who really understands the duties of any vocation properly. This is one of the main reasons why female labor is not more desired and not better paid. Many of those who seek situations as teachers, type-writers, &c., are found to be entirely incompetent. The majority of those who seek situations as nurses, fail because of inability to count quickly, write well or avoid to fill the place with difficulty in the midst of undiscovered energies; it moves with life; dust and vital force combine; blood and bone, nerve and muscle result from an unlikely source. Forces which we cannot, by the utmost refinements of our philosophy, define or know in any whole, and from the same dust which formed the rock and gave us the lichen, is produced a living and a breathing thing, capable of receiving a higher illumination, of soaring in its new state the gladness and the glory of a soul.—*Hunt's Poetry of Science.*

DURING Mr. Stanton's New England tour in search of health, last summer, he took passage, as a writer in the Boston *Advertiser*, on one of the Sound steamers for Providence. He conversed freely during the evening upon all matters connected with the war—alluding to the trials, reverses, mistakes, losses and defeats which we sustained, and the many dark hours of our history. I remember, says the writer, well this impressive remark which he made—*The hand of an overruling Providence was with us through all*—and nowhere was His presence more manifest than in the preservation of the thousands of men who were sent down South by sea." He then alluded to the number of the vessels which were engaged as transports for our soldiers—how ill adapted they were for the service, and how wonderful it was that so few accidents occurred. "Such was my anxiety," he added, "for them on board, that during those nights when a storm was raging I found sleep impossible. I have risen from my bed and spent hours with my face against the window, looking out into the darkness, thinking of the soldiers on board, and when they spoke the morning dreaded to take up the dispatches, I dreaded to learn that some fortune had befallen had gone with all on board to the bottom." After sitting in silence for a time, with his eyes fixed upon the floor, he said in a slow and solemn tone, "*Nothing, sir, nothing but the hand of God saved them.*"

THE London *Times*, in view of the accidents which occur to railway travelers, and reflections on the track, suggests that in front of the engine should be placed a contrivance like the mould board of a plow, to sweep impediments off and take them to one side. Many of the accidents which happen from conductors or brakemen falling between the cars on a train, the same gentleman suggests a netting between the cars. As it is people sometimes stumble in getting in and out of the doors of cars, he thinks furthermore, that the platforms at the stations should be on a level with the doors. And, as the steps at the side protrude, he suggests that the platform should project beyond the steps, so that the steps may be out of the way. The American railway traveler cannot but admire at these careful hints. The "cow catcher" is a universal American institution, with two "mould-boards" instead of one, and a netting or apron between the cars has been in use a long time on some of our railways. No sleep-pigtail from the track would escape interference with anything. And as to platforms on a level with the car doors, in this country, we should as soon think of putting the threshold of a house on a level with the door. Nowadays, in School Presbyterian Churches in this country, the idea of the grand steps forward do not feel the whole story of the year. Intemperance, crime, rapacity, corruption, have organized their forces, and our fairest homes have been blighted by their touch. Against their skill and strategems no resolutions and reformations seem powerless. The millennium is still far away. The visions that come to us from the past are voices of command, summoning all who serve in the train of Christianity to new duties and to devotedness in the promotion of human welfare.

NORTH AVENUE CHURCH.

Last Sabbath was a memorable day in the history of this church, and will have a telling influence on its past and future. Bishop Simpson preached in the morning, and Dr. T. Bowman, of Indiana Asbury University, in the evening. The fervent remarks; Crowded houses hung enraptured on the thrilling words of these eloquent and thoughtful men. After the morning sermon the indebtedness of the church was spread before the congregation, and contributions invited. Before the congregation was dismissed the princely sum of eighteen thousand eight hundred dollars was pledged toward the liquidation of the debt. After the evening sermon the invitation to contribute was renewed, and nearly seven thousand dollars additional were subscribed. The brethren there are now proposing to go forward in their contributions till the sum reaches thirty thousand. This noble giving insures a prosperous future for the congregation.

NOTE.—The *United Presbyterian* and the *Christian Instinct* did not issue a paper this week.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

REMOVAL.

WEAVER & JONES

Have removed their Office to their Works, corner of JUNIATA and FULTON STREETS, Sixth Ward, Allegheny City.

NOTICE.—LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the estate of Mrs. SARAH WHITEHOUSE, deceased, late of Allegheny city, having been issued to the undersigned, all persons indebted to said decedent's estate will present them without delay, and all parties indebted will make payment to

JOS. ARMSTRONG,
51 James street, Allegheny, or
W. S. ROBBINS,
82 Diamond street, Pittsburgh, Executors.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Persons visiting BROOKVILLE, Jefferson county, Penna., will do well to call on

Dr. W. J. McKnight & Bro., Druggists,
CLEMENTS HOUSE,

Where they can at all times find the best brands of TOBACCOS and CIGARS, also BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS and MAGAZINES, at publishers' prices. FANCY NOTIONS, &c.

Prescriptions filled at all hours.

The PITTSBURGH DAILY COMMERCIAL can always be found on their counter, for sale, and subscriptions received for both Daily and Weekly.

DRESS GOODS
FOR SALE AT
A Great Reduction in Prices,
BY
WHITE, ORR & CO.,
25 FIFTH AVENUE.

CHANDELIERS,
Brackets, Pendants, &c.,
FOR GAS OR OIL.
The Largest Assortment West of the Mountains,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
WELDON & KELLY,
Plumbers and Gas Fitters,
147 WOOD ST., NEAR FIFTH AVENUE.
2ptr

WE MAKE ONLY STRICTLY PURE GOODS.

White Lead,
Red Lead,
Litharge,
Potters' Lead,
Putty,
Vermilion.

DAVIS, CHAMBERS & CO. PURE WHITE LEAD PITTSBURGH PA.

Every keg of our White Lead bears the following warrant, and we guarantee a degree of fineness and whiteness unsurpassed:

THIS PACKAGE CONTAINS
Pure White Lead, ... 91 parts.
" Linseed Oil, ... 9
100
$25 IN GOLD will be paid to any one finding the contents of this keg different from the above analysis.
DAVIS, CHAMBERS & CO.
Office, No. 9 Smithfield street.
YThs

BOURBON WHISKY,
Right Years Old.
TEETH BRUSHES,
My own importation.
HAIR BRUSHES AND COMBS,
Of Fine Quality and Beautiful Design.
BROWN SHERRY WINE,
Of a Rich, Luscious Flavor.
FARINA COLOGNE,
In Flaln and Wicker Bottles.
SARG'N SHAVING SOAP,
Containing 30 per cent. Glycerine.
Cressler's Whooping Cough Compound,
A certain relief, at
RANKIN'S DRUG STORE,
44 SIXTH STREET, Pittsburgh.

Read! Read! Read!
The following Recommendations in favor of
DR. SARGENT'S
BACKACHE PILLS

They were the only remedy that ever gave me any relief. Mrs. MARTHA THOMSEN,
Cabinet, Montgomery county, Pa.

After using one box I felt a great deal better. JAMES NELSON,
Indian Run P. O., Mercer county, Pa.

Send me by mail two boxes of Dr. Sargent's Backache Pills. They are just the thing.
P. L. PHILLIPS, Bedford, Pa.

I had been afflicted for three or four years, so bad at times that it was impossible to get up when I lay down. One box gave me relief. J. M. BARNET,
Richmond, Jefferson county, Pa.

Your Backache Pills gave perfect satisfaction.
J. L. THOMPSON, Philipsburg, Pa.

Dr. SARGENT'S BACKACHE PILLS are a certain and safe cure for all diseases of the Bladder, Kidneys and Urinary Organs.

PRICE, FIFTY CENTS PER BOX.
GEO. A. KELLY, Sole Proprietor,
WHOLESALE DRUGGIST,
28 WOOD STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.
dly

DR. W. F. FUNDENBERG,
DENTIST,
Will resume the practice of his Profession for a short time, beginning January 6th.
Office—No. 157 FOURTH AVENUE, between Smithfield and Grant streets. tf

DRY GOODS.

Jos. Horne & Co.,
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
NOTIONS, TRIMMINGS,
Straw Goods, Hosiery, &c.
Stock always complete. Orders promptly filled.
77 AND 79 MARKET STREET.

JUST OPENED,
ANOTHER FRESH SUPPLY OF
Winter Dry Goods.
Silks, Poplins, Plaids and Fancy Dress Goods,
Mantilla Silk Velvets,
Astrachans, Chinchillas
And Beaver Cloths.
FULL ASSORTMENT OF
FINE FURS
AND
Real Astrachan Sacques,
BLANKETS,
FLANNELS
And SHAWLS.
James Caldwell,
120 FEDERAL ST.,
2p ALLEGHENY CITY, PA.

J. W. Barker & Co.
IS DIRECTED TO THE ANNUAL CLOSING SALE AT
R. H. PALMER'S,
No. 105 Market Street,
COMMENCING AT THIS DATE.
The entire Stock in the Wholesale and Retail Department will be sold at a
GREAT REDUCTION
And a great part of it at less than cost, as it must be reduced preparatory to invoicing.
Particular attention is invited to the magnificent assortment of
HATS
AND THE GREAT SACRIFICE
IN PRICES,
Of the largest and most attractive line of VELVETS and SATINS to be found in the city.
Birds of Paradise,
Ostrich Plumes, Sea Gulls,
Willow Plumes and
Brazillian Birds,
AT CORRESPONDINGLY LOW PRICES.
If you want Bargains be sure and not overlook this sale, at
105 Market Street.
Gent's Beaver Gloves and Collars,
$2 50 TO $10 00.

MANUFACTURERS.

Pittsburgh Utility Works
WEAVER & JONES,
Corner of Juniata and Fulton streets, Sixth Ward, Allegheny,
MANUFACTURERS OF
STAPLE HARDWARE, AND ALL KINDS LIGHT GREY IRON CASTINGS.
We tender our goods and services to the Trade at the Lowest Prices, and warrant all our work skillfully finished. Orders solicited.
WEAVER & JONES.
Address: Pittsburgh Postoffice.

THE BEAVER FALLS
Cutlery Company,
Having Opened Salesrooms at
NO. 70 WOOD ST.,
Invite an examination of their Stock of
Superior American Cutlery
Exclusive'y of their own manufacture.
QUALITY UNSURPASSED.
Now in Store and daily arriving from their Works, all the well known and approved, together with new and elegant styles of
Table Knives and Forks,
Carvers,
Bread Knives,
Butchers' and Cooks' Knives, &c., &c
ALSO, EVERY DESCRIPTION OF
Pocket

Jas. T. Brady & Co.,

(Successors to N. Jones & Co.)

COR. FOURTH AND WOOD STS.

BANKERS.

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

MONEY LOANED ON GOVERNMENT BONDS AT LOWEST MARKET RATES.

Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS, BONDS and GOLD.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

Ira B. M'Vay & Co.

Cor. Fourth ave. and Smithfield St.

BANKERS,

DEALERS IN

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

City of Pittsburgh Seven Per Cent.

Water Main Extension Bonds,

EXEMPT FROM STATE, COUNTY AND CITY TAXATION.

For sale at Par and Accrued Interest from October 1st

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 31, 1869.

The closing day of the old year finds the local money market greatly recuperated from the protracted spell of stringency which has affected it like an incubus for the past six or eight weeks. The banks and private banking houses have steadily increased in deposits, and if reports are correct, will be in condition to afford substantial relief to all parties who have claims upon them. Their condition now is quite favorable, and is mainly due to a peculiarly conservative course. Let us hope that the incoming year will not witness any disturbing cause to derange the comfortable workings of our monetary interests; that the legitimate demands of the manufacturing and mercantile class shall have the precedence in our discount market, and speculative enterprises, which so frequently jar the healthful action of trade, may not be fostered or encouraged by either private capitalists or banking institutions.

It is gratifying to notice that, notwithstanding the steady decline of gold, which has characterized the market for the present year, government bonds have gradually grown in public favor, both at home and in foreign markets, and instead of shipping bonds home to be sold, as some croakers predicted would be the inevitable result of a declining gold market, the foreign market has absorbed a large part of this movement. The following table, showing the price of gold and bonds at the close of years 1868 and 1869, will sufficiently illustrate this fact:

	Dec. 28, '68.	Dec. 28, '69.
American gold	139	115¼
Coupon 6-'81	114½	118¾ adv. 4¼
Coupon 5-20's, 1862	111½	115 " 3½
Coupon 5-20's, 1864	107½	112¾ " 5¼
Coupon 5-20's, 1865, new	107½	112¾ " 5¼
Coupon 5-20's, 1865	110½	114¾ " 4¼
Coupon 5-20's, 1868	110½	114¾ " 4¼
Coupon 10-40's	104	110¼ " 6¼
Currency 6's	99½	108¾ " 9¼

The above figures show that the average advance of the gold bearing bonds for the past year has been about 4¾ per cent., whilst the currency sixes have increased in market value fully 9¼ per cent., showing clearly that the fall in gold, instead of weakening, only served to strengthen the public credit. Much of this result is due to the policy of the Secretary of the Treasury in endeavoring to substitute bonds for gold in the withdrawal of bonds from market. During the present expiring year fully 400,000,000 have been thus purchased, which, added to the $100,000,000 privately bought up for permanent investment by foreign capitalists, reduces the aggregate amount in the market, as compared with the previous year, $500,000,000. We fail to see any better employment for the surplus gold of the country than the retirement of the public debt, and as it has a direct tendency to strengthen the national credit, as we have seen, there are very valid reasons why the same line of policy should be adhered to in the future, gold speculators and stock gamblers to the contrary notwithstanding.

—The Treasury announcement that it would in future sell no gold for less than par, even below the market price produced a decided weakness instead of strengthening the market as was perhaps intended. This plan indicates that the Government will not interpose its power to check any further decline, but that it will perhaps assist it by accepting bids whether at or below the ruling premium. This is not a very reasonable course to pursue, for those who are carrying gold purchased at higher figures, and who are hoping for an advance, naturally to get out without loss. If we consider the natural course of events, it is not difficult to perceive that the premium ought to steadily, and rather quickly, decline to par; but the theory of operations has to be taken into account, and this may cause considerable disturbance to ordinary speculations. It is generally conceded it asserted that the great cliques of September last are still powerful, but they have failed to get all the Treasury gold they can preparatory to another heavy upward surge. Some reasons may be adduced why the country at this time in the general interests is against such a proposition, and as we have before stated, one which to loose an argument, we give the rumor without vouching for its truth.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents here:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
Gold	116¾	120	120
U. S. Bonds '81	118¾	119	119
U. S. Bonds '62	112¾	113	113
U. S. Bonds '64	111¾	112¼	112
U. S. Bonds '65	112¾	113¼	113
U. S. Bonds, new '65	111¾	115	115
U. S. Bonds '68	111¾	115¼	115¼
10-40s	109¼	109¾	109¾
Currency 6s	109	109½	109½

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York, as follows:

	Dec. 30.	Dec. 31.	Adv. Dec.
Gold	119¾	120¼	¼
U. S. Bonds, '81	118¾	119	¼
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '62	112¾	113	¼
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '64	111¾	112¼	½
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '65	112¾	113¼	½
U. S. Bonds, new iss. '65	114¾	115	¼
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '68	114¾	115¼	½
U. S. Bonds, 10-40s	109¼	109¾	½
U. S. Currency 6s	108½	109¼	¾

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 89 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

December 31, 1869.	10 A M	12 M	1 P M	2 P M	3 P M
New York Central	183½	183½	183½	183½	183¾
Erie	39¾	39¾	39¾	39¾	39¾
Harlem	131	131			
Reading	99¾	99¾	99¾	99¾	99¾
Mich. Central	135	135			
Michigan Southern	95	95¼	95	95¼	95¼
Illinois Central	142	142			
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	82	82	82	82	82
Chicago and Northwestern	86¼	86¼	86¼	86¼	86¼
Do preferred	84¾	84¾	84¾	84¾	84¾
Rock Island	102¾	102¾	102¾	102¾	102¾
St. Paul	27¾		27¾		27¾
Do preferred	57¾		57¾		57¾
Fort Wayne	88	88	88	88	88
Chicago and Alton	142	142			
Ohio and Miss	29¾	29¾			
Western U. Tel	33¾	33¾			
Pacific Mail	42¾	43¼			
Adams Express	69¾	69¾			
Wells, Fargo & Co	39¾	39¾			
American M. U. Ex	34¾	34¾			
United States Ex	49	49			
Merch. U. Ex	12	12			

—The following statement exhibits the business of the Pittsburgh Clearing House for the week ending Friday, December 31, 1869:

	Exchanges.	Balances.
December 27	$713,087 47	$126,851 80
December 28	500,705 03	111,181 24
December 29	670,547 09	101,718 54
December 30	671,959 41	89,240 51
December 31	632,420 19	107,986 92
Total	$2,788,432 73	$536,858 01

—A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger* asks how much the Reading Railroad Company, since it first went into operation, has paid in cash dividends. We answer, that when the announced cash dividend of 5 per cent. is paid, the company will then have paid in all in cash, 50 per cent. The company has been in operation, we think, twenty-eight years, which makes the annual average dividends in cash one and just 2 per cent. It is proper to say, however, that the company has issued numerous stock dividends within that time, enough, probably, to make it net annually to those who have held stock dividends, from the beginning 10 per cent. per annum, when the stock is at or above par, pays as well as cash. If the recipient chooses to realize on it.

—The earnings of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad during the third week in December were, in 1869, $121,515, and in 1868, $116,128—an increase of $5,386. The earnings of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad during the third week in December were, in 1869, $97,595, and in 1868, $103,260—a decrease of $5,665.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 89 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building,) dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Being represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY EVENING, December 31, 1869. }

There was considerable business doing to-day in our general markets, and prospects are for a good trade soon after the advent of the New Year. The cold year closes with not much grumbling among merchants as to the amount of trade done the past few months, and to follow, like in other cities reported, and the new year will open out with perhaps not a single case of a merchant negligently engaged in business the past year, who cannot show a square account to commence anew on 1870. There are no hints of failures. Prices since our last review have ruled much the same as follows the wholesale store prices, unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—The market is well supplied and dull, at $2 50@3 00 for common, $3 00@3 25 for best for choice to extra.

ASHES—Pearls are quote good to extra at 7½@8c per lb. Pots quote at 6½@7c per lb.

BEANS—Market dull at $2 30@2 75 per bush for good to prime small white, and for navy $3 00 per bush. Demand light.

BACON, LARD, ETC.—There is a fair demand. We quote shoulders at 10@10½c; rib sides 14½@ 15c; clear sides 16@16½c; sugar cured hams 21@22c. In tierces hams 16½@17c; lard in buckets 19@19½c. Mess pork $32 75@33 00.

CHEESE—Sales of Western Reserve at 17½@ 18c; Hamburg 16c; Ohio Factory 16½@17c; Ohio Goshen at 19c; New York factory at 18@19c; Limburger at 19@20c, and sweitzer at 20@22c per lb.

CRACKERS—We quote uncrushed at $14@ 16 per bbl, and common at $10@12 per bbl.

DRIED FRUIT—Sales of prime apples at 8½@ 8¾c and peaches at 11@12c per lb for prime to choice articles.

CIDER—Receipts good and market dull and prices nominal as to quality and size of barrel. We quote at $5 00@6 00 per bbl.

EGGS—The receipts are improving and prices drooping. We quote as warranted fresh at 38@40c per dozen. Pickled at 22@25c per dozen.

DRESSED HOGS—We quote at $11 00@12 00 per cwt, as to quality. Receipts reported 35 Harlem; 30 do preferred; 133 Hudson scrip 8½; Hoosac 100; Lake Shore 100; Michigan Central 141; Michigan Central preferred 145; Pittsburgh 62; Northwestern 64½; do preferred 87½; Panama 145; Quicksilver 11; Quicksilver preferred 45½; Wabash 62; Fort Wayne 86; Terre Haute 45; preferred 75; Quincy 32.

Sub-Treasury balance $80,004,428, including $5,250,265 currency.

Imports for the week—Dry goods $644,938; general merchandise $2,894,495.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO, December 31, 1869.

EASTERN EXCHANGE—Firm, but nominal.

FLOUR—Quiet at $7 25@8 00 for spring extras.

WHEAT—Dull, at higher lower. Sales of No. 1 @ 85c; No. 2 at 77¾@78c, closing quiet at 77¾c; this afternoon the market was dull at 77¾c seller January for No. 2.

CORN—Very dull and ½c lower, at 69½@70c for No. 2, closing at 69¼@69½c for regular; rejected 70c; no grade 67c; this afternoon market dull at 69c for No. 2, seller January.

OATS—Active and 2@3c lower; sales No. 2 at 39@39½c, closing at 39@39¼c.

RYE—Dull at 76c for No. 2.

BARLEY—Dull and nominal.

BROOM-WIRE—Quiet at 9½@10c.

SUGARS—Firm and unchanged to choice Orleans.

PROVISIONS—Quiet. Mess pork low active and 25c lower, closing at $27 50@27 75 cash or seller January. Lard quiet at 16¾@16¾c cash; 17@17¼c seller February. Meats dull and unchanged; shoulders 10¾@10¾c; rough sides 13½c; short rib middles 16c; green hams 14½c; short clear sides 16c. Dressed Hogs—Dull at $10 00@11 75.

LIVE HOGS—Active and firm at $9 00@9 75 for fair to good, $10 for extra.

CATTLE—Quite busy. Firm at $4@4 75 for common to fair cows, $5@5 87½ for fair to medium; $7 00 for extra prime.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 31—Cotton is higher; sales 3,500 bales at 30½c for middling uplands. Flour receipts 5,420 bbls; sour and active and without export sales; State and western 5@10c better for extra State and western; $1 20@5 30 for extra State; $5 35@5 50 for fancy State; $5 55@6 00 for round hoop Ohio; $5 10@6 50 for trade brands Ohio; $5 60@6 00 for choice do; $6 10@6 50 for fancy do; $6 60@7 00 for extra Genesee; $7 10@8 00 for choice do; $8 10@9 00 for fancy do; $9 10@10 00 for extra Western; $10 10@11 00 for choice do; $11 10@12 00 for fancy do; $12 10@13 00 for extra Southern; $6 10@6 50 for white wheat extra; $6 55@6 60 for round hoop Ohio; $6 75@7 00 for choice do; $7 10@7 50 for fancy do; $7 60@8 00 for extra Genesee; $8 10@8 50 for choice do; $8 60

The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

The Commercial Up Town.

Mr. C. F. Linke, the faithful carrier of the COMMERCIAL in a portion of the upper wards and Minersville, will hereafter deliver the paper in that entire district. Subscribers will find him at their doors as usual, and if any subscriber should fail to receive his paper under the new arrangement, the omission will be promptly corrected by leaving word at the counting room.

THE POST-OFFICE will be open between eight and nine o'clock only, this morning.

THE UNIVERSITY.—The Western University will reopen on Monday, January 3d, for the winter session.

OBITUARY.—Dr. Ren, formerly a druggist of this city, died on Thursday at Cross Creek village, Washington county, from disease contracted in the army.

COUNCILS will meet to organize at ten o'clock A. M. Monday. The caucus meeting for the election of city officers was fixed for Monday evening, but an effort is being made to have the caucus postponed until the Friday evening succeeding the organization.

WE CALL the attention of our readers to the fact that Rev. John B. Mollride, A. B., a distinguished graduate of Queen's College, Belfast, Ireland, will preach this morning and afternoon in the Fourth U. P. Church, Allegheny, (late Mr. Dickey's.) We hope to see a full house.

THE POLICE STATION HOUSE.—An error occurred in the amount given yesterday as having been paid Duncan Wanghler & Co., contractors for the erection of the police station houses. The contract price, as a member of the firm informs us, was $6,875, and for extra work for both buildings they received about $20 making a total of $7,195.

ACTING DISORDERLY.—Two young men, named Henry Cannon and Stewart Blakey were acting in a very disorderly manner at the corner of Webster avenue and Washington street. They were arrested, but it was with difficulty they were conveyed to the lock-up, as they resisted the officers all in their power. They will have a hearing this morning.

THE UNITED STATES COURT AT ERIE.—The regular January term of the United States Court will commence at Erie on Monday next. Judge McCandless will preside in the District Court, and it is expected that the examination of Hon. Wm. McKennon, who has been appointed to the bench of the Circuit Court, will be received in time for him to take his seat during the present term.

BALL AND CONCERT.—There will be a ball and promenade concert to-day (New Year's) at the Town Hall, Birmingham, for the benefit of St. Vincent's Literary Society, commencing at 2 P. M. and ending at 11 P. M. Supper will be furnished by Mrs. Meyers, and Schell's Washington Cornet Band. The affair is for a beneficial purpose, and should be liberally attended, especially at the low price of $1 a ticket.

REAL ESTATE REGISTER.—The "Pittsburgh Real Estate Register" for January, 1870, has been placed upon our table by the enterprising publishers, Messrs. Croft & Phillips, real estate agents and brokers, No. 120 Fourth avenue. With the present issue the publishers commence the monthly publication of the "Register" their past experience in issuing it two times a year warranting them in making it a monthly. To sellers as well as buyers of real estate this work of fifty-six pages is invaluable, giving as it does a variety and amount of information that months of correspondence would fail to furnish. Those desiring to invest in real estate should send 25 cents to secure a copy of the "Register," which they may do by mailing as Messrs. Croft & Phillips, or by sending for it by mail, enclosing stamp for postage.

Church Sociable.

On Thursday evening last, a sociable of the congregation of the Eighth U. P. Church, Rev. J. R. Sands, was held at the residence of Mr. Sands, No. 72 Marion street, Sixth ward. Nearly all the members of the congregation were present, together with a number of ministers from other churches and a few invited guests, and the evening was passed in a highly social and intercourse. During the evening the Ladies' Aid Society of the church presented Mr. Sands with an elegant dressing gown, as a New Years' gift. Mr. Sands was taken completely by surprise, and the donors would not allow a speech from the recipient.

Health Report.

Dr. Whitmer Snively, Physician of the Board of Health, reports twenty-six deaths in the city during the week ending December 25th, 1869—thirteen adults and thirteen children; fourteen males and twelve females; twenty-five white and one colored. The diseases are stated as follows: Old age, 1; accident, 1; apoplexy, 1; cancer, 1; tetanus, 1; debility, 1; disease of the heart, 2; erysipelas, 1; pneumonia, 5; hooping cough, 2; scarlet fever, 1; tuberculosis, 4; stillborn, 2. Of the above there were: Under one year, 9; from one to two, 2, two to five, 1; five to ten, 1; fifteen to twenty, 2; thirty to forty, 2; forty to fifty, 1; fifty to sixty, 4; sixty to seventy, 3; seventy to eighty, 2.

Appropriate Gifts for the New Year.

Some of the finest flower baskets, filled with rare gems from the floral kingdom, that ever looked upon, are to be seen upon Messrs. J. R. & A. Murdoch's counters, 112 Smithfield street. Vases of every description, plain and antique, fancy baskets, wheels, hanging brackets, rustic vases and pendants—everything in brief to be found in a first class establishment, will be found at 112 Smithfield street. Not only the proportions of the better class of flower baskets evidence the taste with which arrangement and selection of the contents are charming. At this season of the year there is nothing that conveys so much beauty and freshness as flowers, and Murdoch's are beautiful.

Heavy Tax Payers.

Messrs. Joseph Finch & Co., the extensive distillers, manufactured 604,127 gallons of pure rye whisky during the past year, and paid taxes amounting to $962,888 91, as follows:

January	$ 46,112 34
February	15,501 94
March	36,076 97
April	30,602 97
May	35,044 56
June	38,047 40
July	19,278 49
August	14,627 92
September	41,986 90
October	20,909 43
November	24,434 78
December	40,296 40
Total	$362,888 91

A Worthy Officer Promoted.

A circular from Gen. J. N. McCullough, General Manager of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, announces the appointment of Felician Slocum, Esq., to the office of Engineer of that railway, in place of H. A. Gardner, Esq., resigned, the appointment to date from January 1st, 1870. Mr. Slocum has been an efficient member of the engineer corps of the road for thirteen years past, and has won his promotion by diligence. He is also being an accomplished and experienced engineer, he is a thorough gentleman in the best acceptation of the term. During his residence of nearly eighteen years in our city he has made many warm friends, all of whom will unite with us in the assertion that the company has performed a judicious act in his appointment.

Newsboys' Dinner.

The annual dinner to the newsboys of this city, will be given at Lafayette Hall this afternoon at three o'clock, by Mr. John W. Pittock. This will be the eleventh annual feast which Mr. Pittock has provided for the boys. Many weeks before the time, the boys look forward

MASONIC.

Installation of Officers of Allequippa Lodge, No. 375, McKeesport, and Banquet—Toasts, &c.

On Thursday evening last the officers elect of Allequippa Lodge, No. 375, McKeesport, were duly installed. The installation exercises took place in the new Masonic Hall, Fifth street, McKeesport, and were very interesting, a large number of the fraternity being present.

On the conclusion of the installation services the members of the fraternity and a large number of ladies sat down to an elegant banquet. There were about sixty persons present from Pittsburgh. After disposing of the edibles the cloth was removed, and an organization effected and toasts declared in order.

Mr. W. K. Harrison, Chairman of the committee of Arrangements, offered the first: "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania." Responded to by A. V. Cole, Esq., Master of the Lodge. The next toast, "The Right Worshipful Grand Master, R. A. Lamberton," was responded to by James Ferdinand, Esq., of No. 287, Pittsburgh. Mr. Ferdinand also replied to the toast, "The District Deputy Grand Master, P. M. Pollock." Mr. Pollock being absent on account of sickness. A letter read from Mr. Pollock, contained the following toast: "Allequippa Lodge No. 375, although among the younger children of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, yet one of the highest jewels of any crown." Fraternally yours, &c., &c., Pollock."

Dr. Wood, First Master of the Lodge, was next called on, this toast when the fire, referred elsewhere in this paper, broke out, and the meeting adjourned hurriedly afterwards.

The other toasts which were to have been offered were "Masons' wives, daughters, sisters," "Our Absent Brethren," "Our Guests," "Wisdom, strength and beauty, the three grand pillars of the Masonic Temple." Response by James Evans, Esq. "Masonry, the advocate of the three cardinal principles of Christianity—faith, hope and charity." Response by Rev. Mr. Chapman. Three toasts were also offered, but, as stated, the meeting adjourned before they were responded to. Pittsburgh train on the Connellsville Railroad brought the guests from Pittsburgh home at an early hour yesterday morning. The occasion was a very pleasant one, and will long be remembered by those who were present.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.

A Man and Two Boys Seriously Burned by an Explosion at a Steel Mill.

About eleven o'clock yesterday morning, a frightful explosion, by which several persons were severely burned, occurred at the Steel Works of Messrs. Hussey, Wells & Co., corner of Seventeenth and Pike streets. At the time of the accident, Joseph Bickely, the foreman of one of the forges, was engaged with his "helper," Arthur Delaney, in removing the "tap" from the furnace. This "tap" is a mass of harden steel used in the furnace, and the interior is molten steel, but a hard crust has formed outside. As this metal was being taken out of the furnace it suddenly exploded with great violence, scattering in all directions the pieces of hardened cinder, and the liquid metal that had been inside. The cause of the explosion is not known, but, it is supposed, that, in removing the metal, some water came in contact with it in some way. Several persons in the vicinity at the time, were struck with the liquid fire, and more or less bruised or burned, but three were severely injured. These were Delaney, the "helper," Bickely, the foreman, and Thomas Lapsley, a little son of the puddler, who were spending a part of their school holiday with their father. Mr. Delaney was frightfully burned about the face, breast, back and arms by the explosion, and fell down in the fire and had to be torn off his person to prevent his being burned more extensively still. He was immediately conveyed to the Pan Handle Canal street near Pike, and received medical attention, and is now doing well, and it is hoped they will not prove fatal. Joseph Bickely, the foreman, a man of long standing, had his face, neck, breast, back and arms terribly burned. In removing his clothes the skin came off a large portion of the upper part of his body. The elder boy, Francis, aged fifteen, resides on Sandusky street, but not so seriously as his brother. His face, neck and feet were burned to a crisp. The boys were removed to their father's house on Fifth street, Sixth ward, where they were attended by Drs. Ahl and Kearns. Mr. Blakely, father of the boy, was also burned, but to a comparatively slight degree. He undertook for the recovery of Joseph, the youngest of the unfortunate lads.

A M'KEESPORT FIRE.

Flour Mill and Several Houses Destroyed—Loss Over $12,000. Insurance $8,000.

About half past eleven o'clock Thursday night a fire broke out in the flour and grist mill of Messrs. George Smith & Co., First street, in the borough of McKeesport, which proved to be the most extensive conflagration that is a very large three-story frame building and contained all the machinery essentially necessary for a mill of the kind. The fire spread very rapidly and in a short time the mill with its entire contents, a large quantity of grain, was totally destroyed. Two stables, which adjoined the mill, were also totally destroyed, and a brick dwelling house, owned by Mr. Johnson, was slightly damaged. It was on fire several times, but by the superhuman efforts of the citizens the flames were extinguished and the building saved from destruction. The grape arbors and ornamental trees in front of the house were burned. A frame dwelling owned and occupied by a German named Frank Benger, situated on the other side of the mill, was burned, as was also two other small frames, the owner or owners of which we could not learn. The losses to Messrs. Smith & Co. is estimated at $12,000, there being no insurance on the mill property, but $8,000 being insured for the contents. The loss to Messrs. Smith & Co. is estimated at $4,000, and the loss to Johnson, the owner of the property, will amount to about $1,000. This will be the eleventh annual feast which Mr. Pittock has provided for the boys. Many weeks before the time, the boys look forward to this feast with the brightest anticipations, and we have no doubt that their expectations of enjoying a good meal and a happy time will be realized. These annual feasts have become a feature of the day's observance in the city, and we have not the least doubt but that the entertainment this afternoon will be as pleasant in any that have preceded it. We are also happy to say that Mr. Pittock does not this year confine his liberality to the newsboys, but that he also extends a large installation of meals to the blacks of the city. This will swell the number of guests materially and make the occasion still more pleasant.

More Masonic Appointments.

At the annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge for the State of Pennsylvania, held at the Masonic Hall, South Eleventh street, Philadelphia, on Monday, December 27, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869, the following persons from Pittsburgh, who had been previously elected for the ensuing year, were severally installed in their respective stations, to-wit:

Brother Alfred F. Hawkins, of Pittsburgh, R. W. D. G. M.

Brother Arenbald J. Billows, of Pittsburgh, R. W. S. G. W.

The M. W. Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments for the ensuing Masonic year, for Western Pennsylvania:

District Deputy Grand Masters—Brother Wm. Nesbit, for counties of Center, Mifflin and Huntingdon; Brother Lewy Jackson, for counties of Crawford, Venango, Lawrence and Erie; Brother Leonard Goodings, for counties of Allegheny, Washington and Fayette.

Singular Will.

The following singular will of a German who resided in Franklin township, is on record in the office of the County Register, Joseph H. Gray, Esq.:

"Testament or his last will met November 3d, 1869, with his full sences by witness as follows: My wife shall hef 1 Tabel, 1 coberth, 1 set, of the bett and bettstid as she used, 4 cloth, 4 chers, 9 Bushel potatoes, al the what that is in the stable, 5 onenel of oats, 6 doble bushels of corn; al the hay wat is on Danniar bissne in the barn and one stock; the Neely's corn with the chain; 1 Board 5 pair of chickens and one Rooster, 1 Barl sider, 1 joll lamp, the kitchen furnitur, ni wat is in my hous; two clos, cheast and wat is in them; in Bodes as I have not giver to mi wife for Collection, the Balance of thi property shall be Divided Among my children eckwell; shears, the farm and hus property Withners my own hand & seal Nov 3d, 1869.

United States Court—Judge McCandless.

In this Court, yesterday, decrees of forfeiture were issued in the following cases:

United States vs. the distillery of Enos Walters, stills, et al.

United States vs. forty-six gallons of distilled spirits, et al., claimed by William Downer.

United States vs. one barrel of spirits, owned by Bricknell, Hnish & Schnell.

United States vs. thirty-five barrels of distilled spirits, claimed by McFarland & Co.

United states vs. three barrels distilled spirits, owned by R. McCloud & Co.

United States vs. distillery of Abraham Geary, deceased.

United States vs. thirty-eight hundred cigars found in the possession of Jacob Gleason.

An application was heard on the motion to release the stock of liquors owned by M. Sweeney & Co., on bond. F. C. Sharpless, Esq., appeared in behalf of the motion, and District Attorney Carnahan, contra. Decision reserved.

Serious Affray at Johnstown.

On Friday night last, quite a serious affray took place in Johnstown, which may result fatally to two persons. It appears that Michael Flanagan and John Sykes got into a quarrel near Flanegan a house. Sykes then left, but soon returned, when he was armed with a double-barreled gun. Flanegan, on seeing the latter coming, and fearing that there would be trouble, shut the door and locked it. Sykes, finding the door locked, fired through the entrance impeded, and he fired both barrels through the door. One load took effect in the mother-in-law's leg, and shattered the bone in a frightful manner. As soon as he ascertained the injury he had done, Sykes attempted to run away, but Flanegan armed himself with an ax and started in pursuit. He soon overtook him, when he struck him several times with the ax, inflicting severe injuries, from which, it is said, he cannot recover. No arrest has yet been made.

CITY COUNCILS.

Final Meeting—Additional Compensation for Mayor's Clerk—An Informal Meeting to Choose a President of Select Council—Report of Retrenchment and Reform Committee Read and Referred Back for Additional Testimony—Market Report Finally Concurred in, &c., &c.

An adjourned and final meeting of the Select and Common Councils of the city of Pittsburgh was held on Friday afternoon, December 31, 1869, in their respective Chambers, City Building, for the purpose of hearing the report of the Retrenchment and Reform Committee in the matter of alleged frauds in the grading of the Seventeenth ward station house, on Wednesday, the 29th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M., had pursuant to the following members of the Committee reported:

J. J. Gallagher, Thomas Hailman, Charles Imbert, and Evan Jones and R. W. Morgan, of the Common Council.

J. F. Slagle, Esq., City Attorney, Jared M. Brush, Mayor, and J. W. Patterson, Mayor's Clerk, were also in the following:

The Committee proceeded to investigate the alleged frauds in the grading of the lot of the lot belonging to the city, upon which the Seventeenth ward station house is built, and examined a large number of witnesses, whose testimony in full is hereto attached.

It appears from the testimony that Mr. G. R. Pearson, member of Common Council, of the Seventeenth Ward, and one of the Committee on City Property had given a contract to Mr. C. Rody to grade the lot, which contained 2,000 ground, at one dollar and twelve and a-half cents per cubic yard, and that he gave the contract to Rody without making due inquiry of contractors as to the price which it could be graded. And Mr. Pearson also employed Mr. Miller to measure the ground, instead of the City Engineer, who was the proper person to do it. Mr. Miller returned the measurement to Mr. Pearson as being forty-five feet long, thirty feet broad and seventeen feet deep, which would make eight hundred and fifty yards; at the contract price, of $1 12½ per yard, this would amount to $956 25. Mr. Rody made his bill $950 00—or seven dollars less than the measurement, $3 37 too much.

From all testimony taken, your committee think that the correct measurement should have been forty-one feet long, twenty-five feet broad, and ten and a half feet deep—or, three hundred and ninety-nine cubic yards, which at the contract price amounts to $448 87—making a difference against the city of $506 75.

If the contract had been given to the lowest bidder, as it should have been, it would have been done for sixty cents per yard, which would have saved the city $441 99, or if, after the contract had been let, a correct measurement of the ground had been made, the city would have saved $506 75.

Your committee desire to again call your attention to the very loose manner in which contracts are made by the city, and would respectfully recommend that in future more caution be exercised by Councils in awarding contracts.

R. W. MORGAN,
EVAN JONES,
T. J. GALLAHER,
Committee on Retrenchment.

Accompanying the report were the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the whole matter be referred to the City Attorney with instructions to institute such legal proceedings as he may deem proper.

Resolved, That a warrant be drawn in favor of F. F. Smith, for fifty dollars, for services in making a phonographic report of the testimony taken by the committee.

Mr. MORGAN, in submitting the report, stated that the committee had been much embarrassed in their efforts by the Mayor, the City Solicitor and others, in summoning witnesses and obtaining testimony.

A motion was made to accept the report.

Mr. FRANKSON entered into a somewhat lengthy explanation of his conduct in regard to this matter, but it did not differ from that given that already published. The only error that he felt he had committed was in not first getting the city's interest protected on the ground. He also read an affidavit, signed by two men, to the effect that the price was low for that kind of grading. Also, an affidavit from Mr. Miller, who declared that the measurement was correct. In the course of these remarks, Mr. Pearson reflected upon the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform, and also giving him a fair hearing, and characterized their proceedings as unfair.

Mr. MORGAN replied, in very strong terms, and denounced them as uncalled for and unjust. Mr. Pearson had a fair hearing, as the committee had his testimony in full. The evidence showed that there was fraud, and the facts would show it. He then proceeded to quote from the testimony, but the Chair decided it out of order to quote particular passages, unless the whole was first read.

Considerable discussion ensued, and as the testimony was quite voluminous there was no disposition manifested to have it read.

Mr. Moore, the City Engineer, made a statement in regard to why he did not measure the ground. When he went there, he found that there were no certain data for making the estimate, and not having been called on at the proper time he refused to make any measurement. He examined Mr. Miller's calculation, and found it correct, but could not endorse the measurement, as he knew nothing about the quantity of dirt removed.

The matter was further discussed by Messrs. McCarthy, Jones, McCandless, Scott, and Imbert, and the discussion took a very wide range.

Mr. Scott then moved to refer the whole matter back to the Committee to get the testimony of Mr. Miller, who measured the work. This was agreed to by a vote of 29 yeas to 11 nays.

Mr. CHAIR stated that the old Council died to-night, and the report died with it.

THE MARKET REPORT.

The Common Council then took up the report of the Market Committee, as accepted by Select council, when a warm debate ensued on the question of retrenchment. The yeas and nays were called and resulted:

YEAS—Berger, Bongs, Booth Bolger, Carroll, Caskey, Daub, Hare, House, Houston, Jahn, Lanahan, Mccarthy, McCleane, Mourhead, Palmer, Pearson, Rehman, Seiferth, Sims, Schott, Scott, Verner, Waughter, Weldon, Willson, and Jones, President—27.

NAYS—Albritz, Barton, Bell, Black, Fleming, Hutchinson, Jones, Mccandless, McKelvy, McMasters, Moyd and Nash—14.

So the acceptance of the report was concurred in.

Mr. McKELVY offered a resolution instructing the Market Committee to have the stalls in the Market Hall numbered. Laid on the table.

OLD BUSINESS CONCURRED IN.

Common Council then concurred in the following business of Select, from previous meeting:

The Controller's report, presented in Select Council, December 13th, which was read and accepted, was read and concurred in, with a resolution authorizing the issuing of warrants on the several appropriations.

Joint resolution relative to vault under Armstrong, Bro. & Co.'s. Passed.

Joint resolution relative to gas lamps. Referred to Gas Committee.

Joint resolution relative to vault under Armstrong, Bro. & Co.'s. Passed.

Ordinance opening Eighth avenue. Passed.

Report of Special Committee on petition of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Accepted and committee discharged.

Report of committee on granting privileges to erect iron-clad buildings. Recommending the payment of $1,000 as compensation to Mr. J. S. Patterson, the Mayor's clerk, which was laid over at the last meeting, and moved its third reading and final passage.

Mr. McMAHON asked what the present salary was, and was answered that it was $50 per annum.

Mr. BROWN stated that the resolution had the indorsement of twelve members of the Police Committee, who knew what the services of the Clerk were worth.

Mr. KEHEW stated that the Finance Committee had not intended that the Mayor's clerk's office at $1,000 during the year, but in seven months there had been $750 in checks. This was, in a measure, due to the Clerk, Mr. Patterson, who had proved himself a very efficient Clerk.

Mr. MORROW stated that he opposed the resolution last meeting not knowing that the Police Committee indorsed it. He was in favor of the same.

Mr. BROWN'S motion was carried and the resolution adopted.

Mr. BURGWIN'S motion for a recess was then carried.

MOTION TO ADJOURN SINE DIE.

After a recess of a half hour, the President called the Council to order, when Mr. BROWN moved to adjourn sine die.

Mr. HARTMAN moved an amendment to adjourn until Monday next.

A general discussion here took place, in which the members were allowed to speak as they pleased.

Mr. KIRK said the meeting had been called for the purpose of investigating a very important matter, namely, alleged frauds in the management of the Seventeenth ward. And Councils would stultify themselves by adjourning without making a thorough investigation. If he could be satisfied that the job was insisted on, he would call the yeas and nays.

Mr. BROWN said the yeas and nays was no terror to him; he was willing to be responsible for the vote, and was not afraid to put his name on the record.

Mr. JONES did not think that Mr. KIRK was any more afraid to speak of the job if he could at heart to a greater extent than the other members. The matter would probably not pass the Common Council until next year, and it could be investigated by the next Council. It did not do the Hailman contractor any good, would be called up in the next Council. He was afraid of injustic being done investigation, and the frauds exposed, but he did not think this Council was obliged to wait for the report.

Mr. HAILMAN thought the investigation had been made, and it was time to adjourn. Common Council. He did not think the Select Council would enjoy a night session. It could be brought up again when the new Councils organized.

Mr. McALLEY said he indorsed the remarks of Mr. JONES, and hoped that if he was permitted to make his closing speech that he would never have occasion to hear on the Council floor any such speeches as had been made during the year, especially at the last meeting. The insinuations of dishonesty that had been compared to such criminals as Arnold and Harinan. Such language ought not to be used in Council, and he would never again permit it if he was in the chair.

Mr. KIRK, who, it was charged, had used the language referred to, asked leave to make an explanation, which was granted. He said he was sorry that his language was so construed and if he had said anything of the kind attributed to him he would making due apology for it. He had stated that the public money was being squandered, and he still adhered to that language was that he had said the robbers should be detected and punished as speedily as Arnold and Harinan were.

Mr. McALLEY said he had nothing more to say, considering Mr. KIRK'S explanation. He thought when the remarks were made that they were not intended.

Mr. GALLAHER moved to take a recess of half an hour. Lost. An amendment to Mr. HARTMAN'S amendment.

Mr. PHILLIPS here gave an account of the doings of the Councilmen in the Nicholson station houses. He said the contracts for the buildings were all given out by the committee, but in the matter of the grading of the rear of the lot, the sub-committee had done that. When the bill was presented it was referred to the sub-committee and the City Engineer, Mr. Ely. City Engineer Moore, and Mr. PHILLIPS that on account of sickness he had been unable to attend to the job, but he noted further stated that the calculation and figures were correct, but the Engineer did not vouch for the quantity measured. Mr. PHILLIPS did not know but what an assistant Engineer had measured it, and the cause of his not consenting to be correct he had signed the warrant.

The question was then recurred on Mr. CAHILEES amendment to take a fifteen minutes recess and lost.

The question then recurred on Mr. HARTMAN'S motion to adjourn until four o'clock.

Mr. McALLEY opposed the motion. He said there was no danger of the alleged frauds being lost sight of. They could very easily come up in the next Council.

Mr. KIRK said there was a question in dispute between Mr. Pearson and the City Engineer, Mr. Moore, about the width of the lot, and as Mr. Moore was a candidate for Mayoralty office, where she remained for the night, and yesterday morning was allowed to depart.

An Agreeable Surprise—Presentations.

About noon yesterday the compositors employed on the Evening Chronicle and Messrs. Joseph B. Siebeneck and W. A. Collins, editors and proprietors, to the composing room, and there presented each with a handsome gold headed cane. The exquisite speech was made by Mr. Wm. B. McCord, and was a very happy effort. Brief responses were made by Messrs. Siebeneck and Collins, in their usual bland manner, and a general good feeling prevailed. The canes bore the respective inscriptions: Presented to Joseph G. Siebeneck and Wm. A. Collins, by the compositors of the Evening Chronicle, January 1, 1870.

After the above ceremonies were concluded, Mr. Albert Jackson, book-keeper in the Chronicle Printing Room, in behalf of the staff of a handsome gold pen and holder by the employees of the establishment, as a token of their esteem. Mr. D. G. Fickes, of the reportorial staff, made the presentation speech on behalf of the donors, and Mr. Jackson responded in a few appropriate remarks.

Mr. Albert McMiller, who has for years past had charge of the mailing department of the Chronicle, was made the recipient of a handsome pair of gold eye-glasses by the employees as a testimonial of their regard for him.

CO-PARTNERSHIP.—Elsewhere will be found the announcement of the co-partnership formed by Messrs. Jas. M. Fahnestock and Thomas Birney, under the style of Fahnestock & Birney. The members of the new firm are well known in this city—the former for many years as a successful experience in the business, in the furtherance of which they have united their efforts. The new firm will be a well known business stand at No. 56 Wood street.

Public Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—Edwin Adams had an ovation last evening. The Opera House was packed from parquette to family circle, and a large proportion of the audience was composed of ladies. At the conclusion of his performance of "Jack Rover," in "Wild Oats," Mr. Adams was called before the foot lights to be made a brief but pointed speech, stating that it was among the possibilities that he would return to Pittsburgh in the course of the season, and with wishing all a "Happy New Year."

At the matinee this afternoon, Mr. Adams will appear in "Enoch Arden," and in the evening he will make his farewell appearance in the character of "Wild Oats."

THEATER.—Manager Williams will give a matinee this afternoon, when a strong bill will be presented. In the evening, as usual, there will be a great attraction offered, and every member of the company will appear.

VARIETIES.—Manager Beaner announces a New Year's matinee this afternoon, when every member of the company will appear in the entertainment. The usual excellent performance will be given in the evening.

MUSEUM.—The family resort will be open all day and late in the evening, as usual. A delightful place to take the children is the Museum.

Melancholy Fact.

Every one in the city should feel that way who are not cognizant of the fact that a grand free lunch of eatables and drinkables will be given to every one who enters that superb saloon—the Mint, No. 91 Fourth avenue. It is unquestionably tested Asa L. Waugaman's own make of egg-nog and I intend to to-day. So, friends, meet me there.

A RIVER MAN.

Carriages to Operas and Concerts
Only three dollars, at Burns's, 140 Grant street.

Queensware.

Dealers in this article need not complain of not being able to procure goods. Call on queensware or Bristolware at a reasonable price, as Messrs. S. M. Kier & Co., of this city, are manufacturing goods in this line of a quality equal to any imported wares brought to this city. Their warehouse is No. 303 Liberty street, is well stocked with goods of their manufacture, to which the attention of retail dealers is directed.

The Great Pictorial Annual.

Hostetter's United States Almanac for 1870, for distribution, *gratis*, throughout the United States and all civilized countries of the Western Hemisphere, is now ready for distribution, and all who wish to understand the true philosophy of health should read and ponder the valuable suggestions it contains. In addition to an admirable medical treatise on the causes, prevention and cure of a great variety of diseases, it embraces a large amount of information interesting to every man, woman and child in the land—the farmer, the planter, and the professional man; and the calculations have been made for such meridians and latitudes as are most suitable for a correct and comprehensive NATIONAL CALENDAR.

The nature, uses, and extraordinary sanitary effects of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS, the long-tried and valuable remedy for the habitual costiveness and alterative of more than half the Christian world, are fully set forth in its pages, which are also interspersed with pictorial illustrations, valuable recipes for the household and guide, humorous anecdotes, and other instructive and amusing reading matter, original and selected. Among the annuals appearing with the opening of the year, this is one of the most useful, and *may be had for the asking*. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who can not procure one in his neighborhood. The BITTERS are sold in every city, town and village, and are extensively used throughout the entire civilized world.

A Sensible Present

As the New Year opens its ever white folds, and friends are on the lookout for suitable articles to cement the love and esteem of years, how many will turn with delight to the hope that *their* present at least will prove useful as well as beautiful. Something wishy, in the discharge of every day life, is brought up continually as a remembrancer of the practical good sense of the donor. Such a present is to be found in the American Buttonhole Overseaming and Family Sewing Machine. Fancy a first class machine, adopted to every range of needle work, suddenly deposited in the middle of an apartment among a bevy of delighted women, matrons and daughters, or sisters. This would be a capital method of celebrating the New Year.

The merits of the American Buttonhole and Overseaming Sewing Machine are so well known in this locality that we scarcely deem it worth while to dwell upon them at length. The accommodating agent, Mr. Espy, No. 12 Fifth avenue, will take pleasure in exhibiting the American Buttonhole Overseaming and Family Sewing Machine to such as may visit the salesroom.

Insure in the Ben. Franklin Insurance Company of Allegheny.

Within the past ten years the greater portion of our home Insurance Companies have received the most flattering evidences of approval in the form of liberal patronage. The home offices' are to-day regarded by the well informed and cautious portion of the community as the safest and most reliable in the country. The Ben. Franklin Insurance Company, of Allegheny, is now in its strength. Its entire company in brilliant sets. Ladies' Matinee on Wednesday, Grand Ball on Tuesday—Benefit of the Lyceé Family. Wednesday Benefit of J. R. Lake. Friday—Benefit of Chas. Seifert.

CONCERT AND TABLEAUX,
To be held in Lincoln Hall,

Twenty-first Ward School House, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, December 30 and 31, 1869, and SATURDAY, January 1, 1870, for the benefit of the Second Presbyterian Church, Torrens Station. Doors open at 7½ o'clock P. M.

Admission 50 cents.

ORPHANS' FAIR

OPEN EVERY EVENING.

IN BASEMENT OF CATHEDRAL. tf

BURNELL'S
Museum and Parlor Menagerie.

The Great Family Resort, FIFTH AVENUE, between Smithfield and Wood streets, opposite Old Theater. OPEN DAY AND EVENING all the year round.

Admission, 25 cents. Children 15 cents.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC
FOR ONE WEEK ONLY,
COMMENCING JANUARY 3.
Grand Combination.
The World-renowned Gymnasts,
The Hanlon Brothers
THE MIRTH-PROVOKING LITTLE
HANLON MIDGETS,
AND
The Wonderful Little Bob,
IN THEIR ASTOUNDING
New Great Act,
And other Attractive Novelties. They will be accompanied by
ALF. BURNETT,
The inimitable American Humorist,
Miss Helen Nash,
The Versatile Commedienne, and
JAS. W. SHARPLEY,

Pronounced the greatest living Concertinist, the only man in this country who can play the Concertina in the interesting and unexceptionable manner of the performance.

Notwithstanding the great expense attending this Grand Combination, the prices will remain the same as fixed at the following rates: Parquette and Dress Circle, 75 cents; Family Circle, 50 cents; Gallery, 25 cents.

Seats for said performance may be secured on and after Friday morning, December 31, at Kleber & Bros., 142 Wood street.

AUCTION SALES
Robert H. Patterson & Co.,
CORNER OF
Seventh Avenue and Liberty Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.,

Will, on every Saturday, hold an Auction Sale of

Horses, Carriages, Buggies, Wagons,

And everything appertaining to the Horse.

Persons desiring to sell will please leave their notice of consignment on or before Thursday of each week in order for advertising. Prompt attention and good care will be given all Stock left for sale.

JOHN H. STEWART,
AUCTIONEER.

FOR SALE,

The Lease of Four Lots of Ground fronting on A. V. R. R. and running back to Allegheny River, 96 feet, near Twenty-eighth street. Also, the Buildings and Improvements thereon, consisting of a large two-story building, installed 96 by 50 feet; one one-story building, 132 by 50 feet, with Blacksmith shop 60 by 22 feet; one engine, 14 inch cylinder, 14 inch stroke; one 36 inch Circular Saw, and all the machinery of a Planing Mill, and the entire building, stock in yard, Fire Plugs, &c.

The Lease has seventy-five months and the property is very desirable for manufacturing purposes—having Railroad facilities. Apply at the Machine Shop and Foundry. For further particulars, address

Box 670, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE,
THAT DESIRABLE
DOUBLE BRICK DWELLING,

No. 25 Isabella street, Allegheny city containing 12 Rooms, all in the best order. Gas, Water, Range in Kitchen, and all the conveniences of a modern house—large Yard in rear of house with Brick Stable and Coach House, &c. Marble Mantels in Parlors; Halls and Dining Room Paneled and Varnished. Lot 44x187 feet to a 20 feet Alley. Lease and Furniture will be sold if desired. Possession can be had at once. Any one desiring to look at such a House are invited to inspect the premises. For terms, &c., apply on the premises, or to W. SCHOLEY, No. 266 Liberty street, Pittsburgh.

FOR SALE—FOUR 40-INCH BOILERS,

Also, one 30-inch Boiler, 30 feet long, all in good order, will be sold cheap, together with the Mud Valves, Steam Valves, Steam Gauges, with Pipe Beds, Brickwork, &c., as they now stand in the steamer Valley Belle. For further information apply on board, or to

CAPT. R. C. GRAY,
tf Office 94 Water street, Pittsburgh.

CITY ADVERTISEMENTS.

AN ORDINANCE

To Provide for the Arrest and Punishment of Persons Guilty of Riots and other offenses Under the 15th Section of the Act of Assembly, Approved April 6, 1867, Entitled a Further Supplement to the Act Incorporating the City of Pittsburgh, &c.

SECTION 1. Be it ordained and enacted by the Select and Common Councils of the City of Pittsburgh, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall be the duty of the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, upon receiving information made and warrant issued, to arrest all persons who may be found assembled in a tumultuous or riotous manner, disorderly conduct, and, in short, all habitual disturbers of the public peace, known by the name of rowdies, plug-uglies, fire-bug stuffers, persons who practice any trick, game or device with intent to cheat the persons with whom they familiar, and suspicious persons who can give no reasonable account of themselves, and bring them before the Mayor of the city, and upon conviction of any of said offenses, each and every offender shall be punished by fine or imprisonment at hard labor, or both, at the discretion of the Mayor. Provided, no such person shall be fined for the first offense in excess of fifty dollars, and that such imprisonment, for the first offense, shall not exceed thirty days; for the second offence, sixty days.

SECTION 2. That any ordinance or part of ordinance conflicting with the passage of this ordinance at the present time is hereby repealed so far as the same affects this ordinance.

Ordained and enacted into law in Councils, this 27th day of December, A. D. 1869.

W. A. McALEEY,
President of Select Council.

Attest: E. S. MORROW,
Clerk of Select Council.

W. A. TOMLINSON,
President of Common Council.

Attest: HENRY MCCLAREN,
Clerk of Common Council.

FURNITURE.

ROCK the BABY
IN EARNEST'S
PATENT SWING CRIB,
SOLD ONLY BY
LEMON & WEISE
Practical Furniture Manufacturers,
118 FOURTH AVENUE,
WHERE MAY BE FOUND A LARGE AND COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF PARLOR, CHAMBER AND KITCHEN FURNITURE. nwf

DIAMOND TOMATOES.

Quite a desideratum has been achieved by the DIAMOND PACKING CO., in their

CORELESS TOMATOES,

Which the consumer will readily appreciate. They are receiving universal favor, and are acknowledged the best canned. They are a cheap and wholesome luxury. Use the best. Use the CORELESS, and satisfy yourself of their superior excellence.

Ask Your Grocer for the Diamond Brand—Wick's Coreless.

Use no inferior article when the best is so cheap.

Wholesale Depot,
VANGORDER & SHEPARD,
117h **VOIGT, MAHOOD & CO.**

James Morrison & Co.,
PORK PACKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
AND MANUFACTURERS OF
**LARD O